Just CrossStitch 2008 Special Christmas Issue

Christmas Ornaments

Favorite 76 Designers

Christmas Ornaments 2008
$6.99 US
1 1>
7 25274 02807 8

Christmas Ornaments 2008

Editor's Note
6
2008 Christmas Ornaments Collection
10

	Instructions	Photo
Amy Bruecken Designs	30	29
Angel Stitchin	30	14
Blackbird Designs	31	11
Blue Ribbon Designs	32	14
Brightneedle	33	23
Brittercup Designs	34	29
Casey Buonaugurio Designs	35	13
Cat's Whiskers Design Studio, The	36	29
Charland Designs Inc.	37	27
Charlette's Collectibles	38	20
Charlotte's Web Needlework	39	24
Cherished Stitches	41	10
Cindy Valentine Designs	42	17
Country Cottage Needleworks	43	12
Courtney Collection	44	18
Cross-Eyed Cricket Inc.	45	25
DebBee's Designs	46	16
Dragon Dreams, Inc.	47	27
Elizabeth's Designs	48	15
Erica Michaels Designs	49	29
Fancy Work	50	10
Forget-Me-Nots In Stitches	51	24
Full Circle Designs	52	17
Gentle Pursuit Designs	53	28
Glory Bee	54	17
Hands To Work	55	11
Heartstrings/The Artists Collection	56	27
Homespun Elegance Ltd.	57	19
Imaginating, Inc.	58	19
Ink Circles	59	19
JBW Designs	60	20
Jeannette Douglas Designs	61	16
Jemini Designs	62	27
Julia Lucas Designs	63	15
Kitty & Me Designs	64	28
Knotted Tree NeedleArt	65	29
La-D-Da	66	11
Ladybug Lane Designs	66	29
Legacy Designs	68	10
Little By Little Design Co.	69	23
Little House Needleworks	70	20
Lizzie*Kate	71	23
Loopylou Designs	72	25
M Designs	73	13
Midsummer Night Designs	74	20
Milady's Needle	75	23
monsterbubbles	76	22
Mosey 'N Me	77	13
Moss Creek Designs	78	11
My Big Toe Designs	80	17
My Mark	81	23
NeedlePlay Needlework Designs	82	25
Nordic Needle, Inc.	84	17
Patricia Ann Designs	85	25
Prairie Moon	86	20
Prairie Schooler, Inc., The	87	15
Primrose Needleworks	88	13
Raise the Roof Designs	89	26
Rosewood Manor	90	25
SamSarah Design Studio	91	13
Scandinavian Stitches	92	19
Serendipity Designs, Inc.	92	20
Shepherd's Bush Printworks	93	15
Simple Stitches	94	15
Still Stitching with Susan, LLC	95	17
Stitchworks, Ltd., The	96	27
Sue Hillis Designs	97	19
Sunflower Seed, The	99	23
Sweetheart Tree, The	100	11
Thistle Threads	101	26
Val's Stuff	102	12
Victoria Sampler, The	103	15
Victoria Sampler— Designs by Cathy Jean	104	13
Wee Works	105	28
Wildflower Stitchery	106	20
Workbasket, The	107	19

Advertiser Index
114

Where to Find It
110

Stitch Illustrations
116

Instructions

Twisted Cording
108

Tassel Making
109

Ornament Finishing
108

Just CrossStitch

Editor	Elizabeth Pugh
Assistant Editor	Christy Schmitz
Educational Consultant	Martha Beth Lewis
Copy Editor	Karen Pyne
	Nancy Ogburn
Needlework Designer	Marie Barber
Creative Director	Mac Jamieson
Style Director	Yukie McLean
Photographers	Jennifer & Company
Senior Digital Imaging Specialist	Delisa McDaniel
Digital Imaging Specialist	Chris Waits
Publisher	Gary R. Johnson
Marketing Director	Jennifer Sharpton Jaquess
Advertising Manager	Robyn Brown Hoglan
Account Manager	Megan Pollard
	205.262.2130
Group Sales Manager	Mary Evelyn Holder
	615.297.3639
Advertising Production Representative	Myra Stiff
Graphic Designer	Jessica Stalnaker
Assistant Marketing Manager	Jennifer Crowell
Marketing Coordinator	Susan Sutton
Advertising Promotion Designer	Julie Haggard
Research Manager	Robin Smith
Executive Assistant	Frances Warren

HOFFMAN MEDIA LLC

President	Phyllis Norton Hoffman
Vice President/CFO	G. Marc Neas
COO/Development Director	Eric W. Hoffman
Administrative Director	Lynn Lee Terry
Human Resources Director	Judy Brown
Production Director	Greg Baugh
Circulation Director	Silvia Rider
IT Director	Matthew Scott Holt
Online Director	Missy Polhemus
Website Editor	Tara Trenary
Website Designer	Glenda Cunningham
Website Developer	Daniel Powell
Consumer Marketing Director	Nathan Looney
Events Director	Brian Hoffman
Events Coordinator	Elizabeth Boldin
Business Manager	Wanda McLemore

Permission is granted to the owner of this issue to photocopy chart pages for personal stitching use only. Photocopying any portion of this issue for any other purpose without written permission from the publisher constitutes a violation of copyright law.

Just CrossStitch® (ISSN 0883-0797) is published bimonthly (February, April, June, August, October, December, plus the Ornament Special Issue) by Hoffman Media, LLC, 1900 International Park Drive, Suite 50, Birmingham, AL 35243 USA. *Just CrossStitch®* trademark registered in US Patent Office. ©1985 by Hoffman Media, LLC. All rights reserved. Subscription prices: 6 issues $19.98; 12 issues $39.98. This rate applies to the US and its possessions. Canada add $6 postage; all other countries add $12 postage per year. Please allow 6–8 weeks for shipment on new subscriptions. Allow 6–8 weeks for change of address. Periodicals postage paid at Birmingham, Alabama, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: PLEASE SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO *Just CrossStitch®*, P. O. Box 8459, Red Oak, IA 51591; (888)369-5867. Canada Post International Publications Mail Product (Canadian Distribution Sales Agreement No. 0681022).

©2008, Hoffman Media, LLC

Printed in USA.

Editorial Offices
149 Old Big Cove Road
Brownsboro, AL 35741 USA
(800)547-4176, ext. 147
Fax: (256)533-9630

Web site: *www.just-crossstitch.com*

For Stitching Help or Design/Article Submissions:
Christy Schmitz: *cschmitz@hoffmanmedia.com*

For Advertising Information:
Gary Johnson, Robyn Brown Hoglan, or Megan Pollard
phone: 205-995-8860 Fax: 205-991-0071

Subscription Services
Just CrossStitch Magazine
P. O. Box 8459
Red Oak, IA 51591
(888)369-5867 (US only); (205)995-8860
JCRcustserv@cdsfulfillment.com

Editor's Note

Elizabeth Pugh

This is the second year the *Just CrossStitch* ornament issue has been produced since our editorial offices moved from Hoffman Media's Birmingham, Alabama, headquarters to their Huntsville, Alabama, location two hours to the north. We now share office space with *Sew Beautiful* magazine and the Martha Pullen Company (a Hoffman Media subsidiary), and we work in a large building that contains more sewing treasures than you can imagine. The Martha Pullen staff focuses primarily on heirloom machine sewing but has become as eager about our little Christmas ornaments as our *Just CrossStitch* readers. This year, a ritual developed when assistant editor Christy Schmitz visited the shipping department each day to pick up a fresh delivery of 2008 Christmas ornaments: everyone in the room would stop what they were doing, gather around a central table, watch patiently as Christy opened the carefully sealed package, and then ooh and aah when she revealed the small stitched treasure. It was such a sweet and funny scene to witness, which reminded me of the magical side of Christmas, transforming adults of any age into the curious little children we once were.

Christmas dinner is another occasion when I enjoy reliving parts of my childhood, and my family does not take well to any experimentation on my mother's part with regard to menu planning. Mom developed this recipe shortly after she married my father and has prepared the dish almost every Christmas and Thanksgiving since. The copy of the recipe she keeps on hand is a yellowed newspaper clipping from November 1973, when her special creation appeared in *The Huntsville Times* among winners of an annual holiday recipe contest.

Elegant Green Bean Casserole

1 Tbsp. butter or margarine
1 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
1 c. milk
1¼ c. shredded sharp Cheddar cheese
Dash of Tabasco® sauce
½ tsp. salt
1½ c. French-cut green beans, drained
1 (8-oz.) can sliced water chestnuts, drained
1 (4-oz.) can sliced mushrooms, drained
1 (4-oz.) bag slivered almonds

Preheat oven to 375°. In top of double boiler blend butter and flour. Add milk and blend well. Cook until thickened. Add cheese and seasonings and cook for 5 minutes. Add beans, water chestnuts, and mushrooms. Mix well and pour into a 1-qt. casserole dish. Top with slivered almonds. Bake for 30 minutes.

This dish can be made ahead and frozen until ready for baking. Prepare dish, but quick cool instead of baking. Freeze uncovered, then slip into a freezer bag. To speed cooking time, thaw in refrigerator 24 hours before baking.

Makes six servings.

We at *Just CrossStitch* wish you a merry, blessed, and peaceful Christmas!

Elizabeth Pugh

To you is born this day
in the city of David a Savior,
who is the Messiah, the Lord.
Luke 2:11 (NRSV)

2008

Christmas Ornaments Collection

A child this day is born,
A child of high renown,
Most worthy of a sceptre,
A sceptre and a crown.
Nöels, nöels, nöels!
Sing all we may,
Because that Christ, the King,
Was born this blessed day.

—Old English Carol

1. **Legacy Designs**
   Quaker Darning Sock 2008

2. **La-D-Da**
   Gabrielle's Star

3. **Blackbird Designs**
   Winter Song

4. **Fancy Work**
   Adeste Fideles

5. **Cherished Stitches**
   Holly Berries Mini Biscornu

6. **Moss Creek Designs**
   Go Forth in Splendor and Light

7. **Hands to Work**
   Joy

8. **The Sweetheart Tree**
   Noel Ornament

2
3
noel
6
7
8
JOY

2008

Christmas Ornaments Collection

Christmas is here:
Winds whistle shrill,
Icy and chill.
Little care we;
Little we fear
Weather without,
Sheltered about
The Mahogany Tree.

—William Makepeace Thackeray

1. **Val's Stuff**
   Christmas is a Time to Share

2. **Mosey 'N Me**
   Frosty Friends

3. **SamSarah Design Studio**
   Christmas Eve

4. **Victoria Sampler—Designs by Cathy Jean**
   Snow Baby Joey

5. **Casey Buonaugurio Cross Stitch Designs**
   Let it Snow

6. **Country Cottage Needleworks**
   Let it Snow

7. **M Designs**
   Bluebird of Christmas Happiness

8. **Primrose Needleworks**
   Yule Rejoice

3
5
Let it Snow
Let it Snow
2
4
7
Yule Rejoice
8

2008
Christmas Ornaments Collection

Christmas in Bethlehem. The ancient dream: a cold, clear night made brilliant by a glorious star, the smell of incense, shepherds and wise men falling to their knees in adoration of the sweet baby, the incarnation of perfect love.

—Lucinda Franks

1. **Blue Ribbon Designs**
   Glad Tidings
2. **Elizabeth's Designs**
   Holly House
3. **The Prairie Schooler, Inc.**
   Snowy Night
4. **Simple Stitches**
   Silent Night
5. **Julia Lucas Designs**
   Deck the Windows
6. **Angel Stitchin'**
   Candle Light
7. **The Victoria Sampler**
   A Merry Little House
8. **Shepherd's Bush Printworks**
   Starry Night

2008
Greetings
Merry
Christmas
Silent Night

2008
Christmas Ornaments Collection

I have always thought of Christmas time as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely.

—Charles Dickens

1. **DebBee's Designs**
   Joy Band Sampler 2008

2. **Full Circle Designs**
   A Christmas Song

3. **My Big Toe Designs**
   Peace

4. **Still Stitching with Susan, LLC**
   Blessings Ornament

5. **Jeannette Douglas Designs**
   2008 Ball Ornament

6. **Nordic Needle**
   Hardanger Wreath

7. **Glory Bee**
   Merry 2008

8. **Cindy Valentine Designs**
   Oriental Splendor

2
PEACE
3
SEASONS
BLESSINGS
TO ALL
4
8
MERRY
6
7

2008
Christmas Ornaments Collection

Fail not to call to mind, in the course of the twenty-fifth of this month, that the Divinest Heart that ever walked the earth was born on that day; and then smile and enjoy yourselves for the rest of it; for mirth is also of Heaven's making.

—Leigh Hunt

1. **Courtney Collection**
   Turtle Dove
2. **Scandinavian Stitches**
   Norweigan Reindeer
3. **Homespun Elegance, Ltd.**
   Quaker Joy
4. **Imaginating, Inc.**
   Heartfelt Harvey
5. **Wee Works**
   Sugar Plum
6. **Ink Circles**
   Poinsettia
7. **Sue Hillis Designs**
   Merriest Christmas
8. **The Workbasket**
   Elfin Stocking

2
3
4
WISH
YOU THE
MERRIEST
CHRISTMAS
SH
2008
6
7
8

2008
Christmas Ornaments Collection

Oh! lovely voices of the sky
Which hymned the Saviour's birth,
Are ye not singing still on high,
Ye that sang, "Peace on earth"?

—Felicia Hemans

1. **Wildflower Stitchery & More**
   Wish Upon a Star
2. **Charlette's Collectibles**
   Liberty Angel
3. **Little House Needleworks**
   Glory to God
4. **Prairie Moon**
   Noel
5. **Midsummer Night Designs**
   Feel the Magic
6. **Serendipity Designs**
   Daddy's Angel
7. **JBW Designs**
   Angel Tree

2

3

4

6

7

2008
Christmas Ornaments Collection

Never worry about the size of your Christmas tree. In the eyes of children, they are all 30 feet tall.

—Larry Wilde

1. **monsterbubbles**
   Dottie

2. **Lizzie*Kate**
   Merry Tree

3. **My Mark**
   Be Merry

4. **The Sunflower Seed**
   A Song, A Song

5. **Little by Little Design Co.**
   O Starry Night

6. **Brightneedle**
   To Thee a Very Merry...

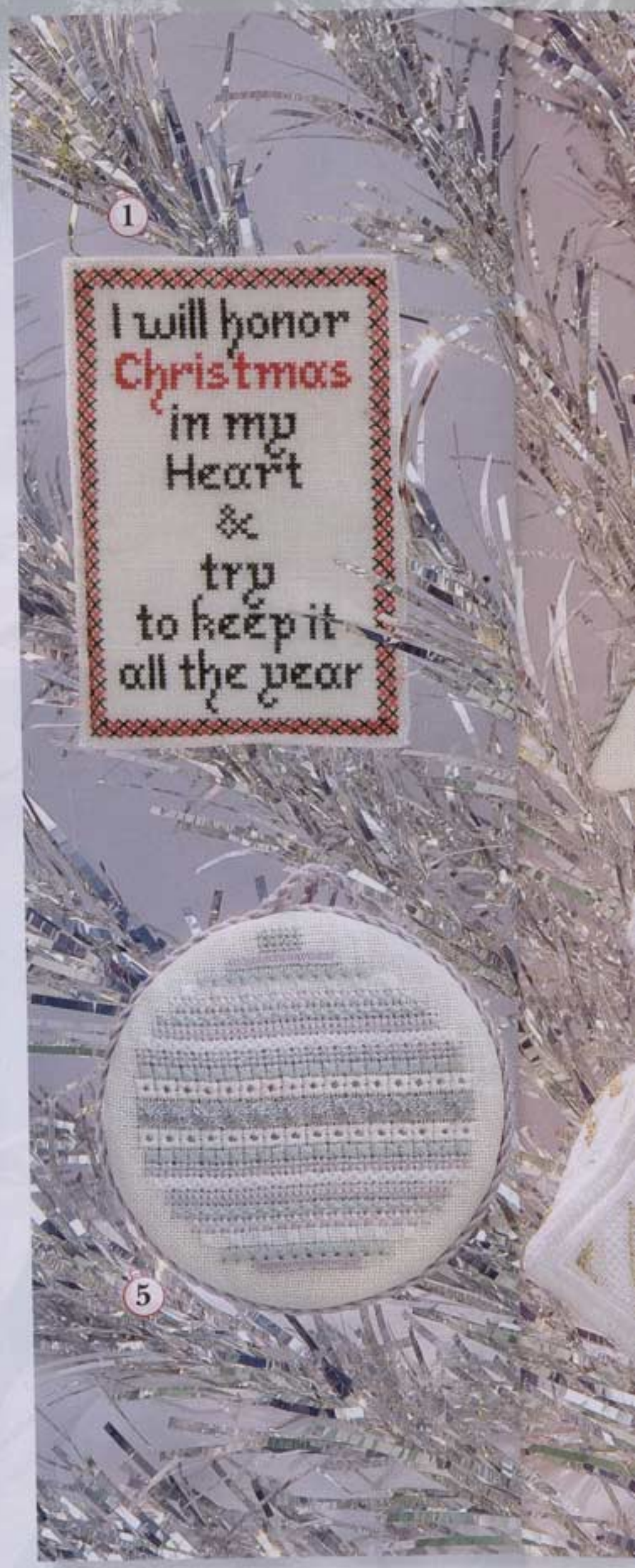
7. **Milady's Needle**
   Christmas Tree Farm

2
3
4
A Song,
A Song,
High Above The Trees,
With A Voice As
Big As The Sea
be
merry
2008
Merry Christmas
5
6
7

2008
Christmas Ornaments Collection

I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year.

—Charles Dickens



1. **Forget-Me-Nots in Stitches**
   Honor Christmas
2. **Cross-Eyed Cricket**
   Angel Kiss
3. **Patricia Ann Designs**
   Winter Frost
4. **Loopy Lou Designs**
   Christmas Stars
5. **Charlotte's Web Needlework**
   Silver Stitches
6. **Needleplay Needlework Designs**
   Hope and Joy
7. **Rosewood Manor**
   Peace

2
3
4
6
7
Peace

2008

Christmas Ornaments Collection

Christmas—that magic blanket that wraps itself about us, that something so intangible that it is like a fragrance. It may weave a spell of nostalgia. Christmas may be a day of feasting, or of prayer, but always it will be a day of remembrance — a day in which we think of everything we have ever loved.

—Augusta E. Rundel

1. **Thistle Threads**
   The Nutcracker

2. **Jemini Designs**
   Snowdon

3. **Heartstrings/**
   The Artists Collections
   Santa Angel

4. **Charland Designs, Inc.**
   Santa Topper

5. **Raise the Roof Designs**
   Walt the Malt

6. **Dragon Dreams, Inc.**
   Christmas Morning

7. **The Stitchworks, Ltd.**
   Gingerbread Boy Ornament

2
3
4
6
7

2008

Christmas Ornaments Collection

'Twas Christmas broach'd the mightiest ale;
'Twas Christmas told the merriest tale;
A Christmas gambol oft could cheer
The poor man's heart through half the year.

—Sir Walter Scott

1. **Gentle Pursuit Designs**
   The Christmas Gift
   Quaker Motif Ornament

2. **Erica Michaels Designs**
   Noel Pinkeep

3. **The Cat's Whiskers Design Studio**
   A Stitcher's Christmas Pinkeep Ornament

4. **Ladybug Lane**
   Miracles Happen

5. **Kitty & Me Designs**
   Poinsettia Biscornu

6. **Brittercup Designs**
   Christmas Centerpiece

7. **Amy Bruecken Designs**
   I Believe

8. **Knotted Tree NeedleArt**
   Peace in 2008

Miracles Happen
I BELIEVE
Peace
2
3
4
6
7
8

Amy Bruecken Designs

Amy Bruecken

We have a special star in our family. It's a priceless heirloom made of cardboard, glitter, and glue.

It was made 21 years ago with Nick's two-year-old pudgy fingers. Placing it on the top branch of our tree has been a tradition since he proclaimed that his tree "had to have a star on top!" Well, I am a trained artist, so I broke out the good stuff—an old box for the star, Elmer's glue, glitter, and a yellow marker.

The boys are 20 and 23 now, six-foot-two and six-foot-five; they are still filled with the same spit and vinegar and still making a fuss—the star must go on!

It really is a fun couple of minutes—we all laugh, take pictures, and share the silliness. I believe it's all the smiles that make the season merry!

Merry Christmas to all!

I BELIEVE

Designed by Amy Bruecken of Amy Bruecken Designs

Weeks Dye Works™
Hand Over Dyed Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

✳	2245 (3832)	grapefruit
@	2136 (958)	Caribbean
•	2224 (725)	squash
■	2336 (333)	ultraviolet
ℓ	2118 (996)	blue topaz
☆	2234 (721)	autumn leaves

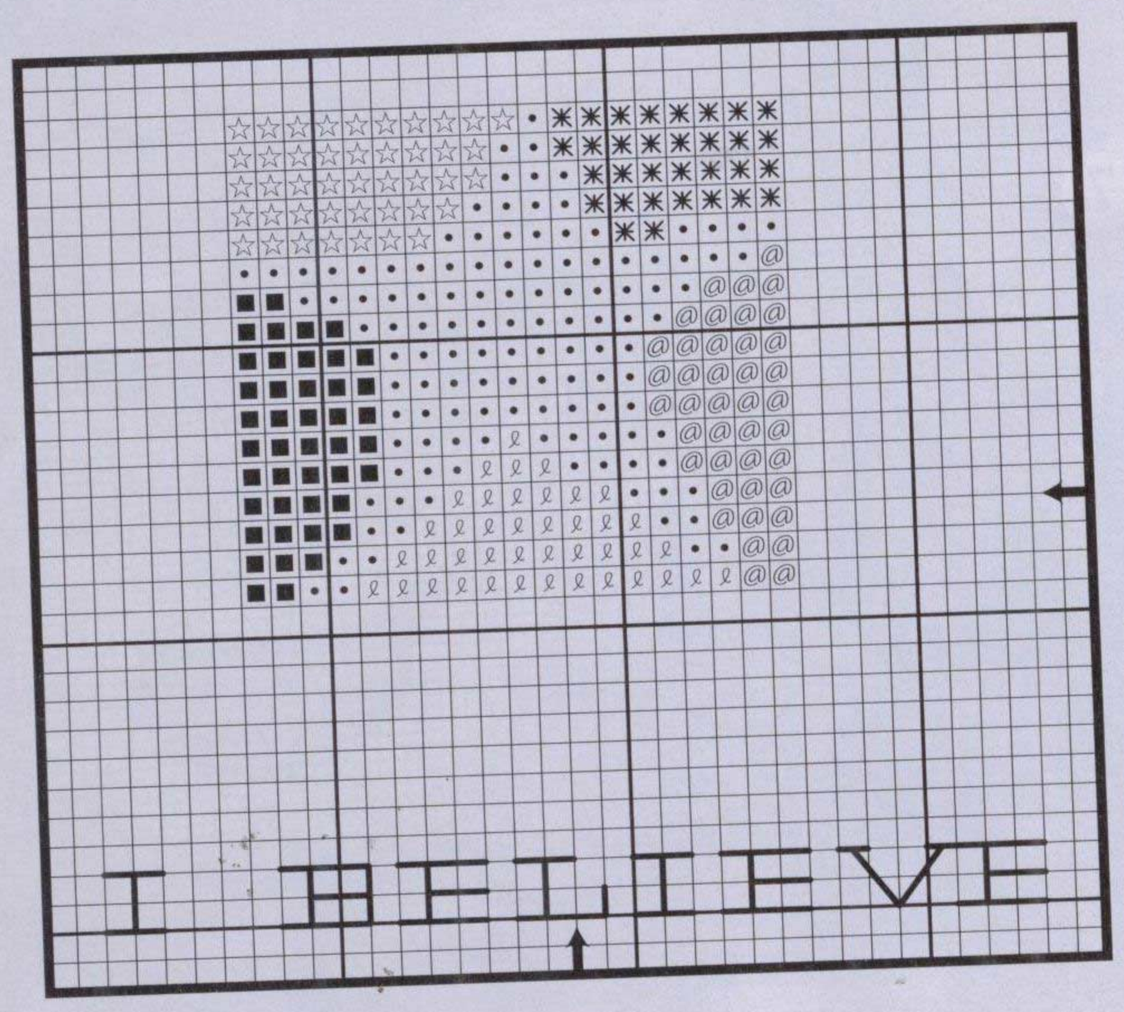
Fabric: 6" x 6" piece 28-count marigold linen from Weeks Dye Works™
Stitch count: 28H x 32W
Design size: 2" x 2 1/3"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand 2336.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Hanger made by inserting red wire into top corners of ornament and wrapping ends around the end of a pencil to create swirls. Hanger on model was embellished with one Just Another Button Company™ #3315 apricot star button.

Amy Bruecken Designs
4332 Rugby Drive
Toledo, OH 43614
e-mail: *amybruecken@aol.com*

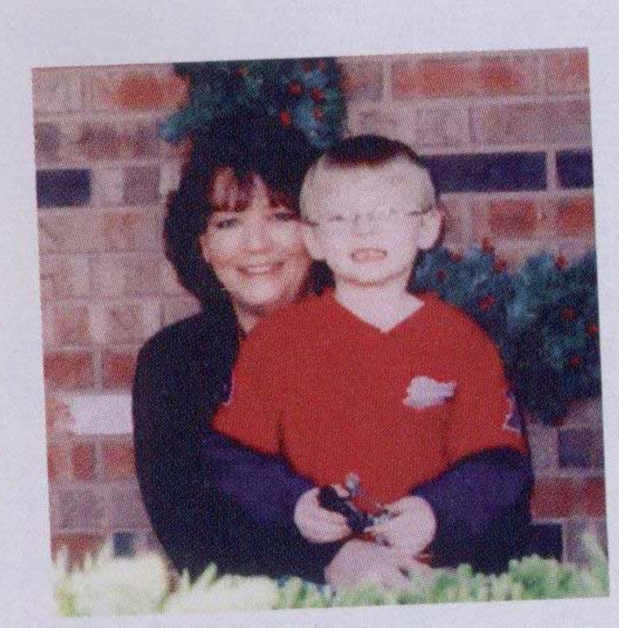


©2008 Amy Bruecken Designs

I Believe

Angel Stitchin

Jan Fate



Cherry Delight

1/2 c. butter
1 sleeve graham crackers, crushed
1 (8-oz.) container frozen nondairy whipped topping
1 (3-oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened
1/2 c. confectioners' sugar
1 (21-oz.) can cherry pie filling

In a microwave-safe bowl, melt butter; mix with crushed graham crackers. Press mixture into an 8" x 8" pan. Refrigerate to cool.

In a medium bowl, combine whipped topping, cream cheese, and confectioners' sugar. Spread gently over crumb crust. Refrigerate until set. Pour cherry pie filling on top. Refrigerate for 1–2 hours. Cut into squares and serve.

CANDLE LIGHT

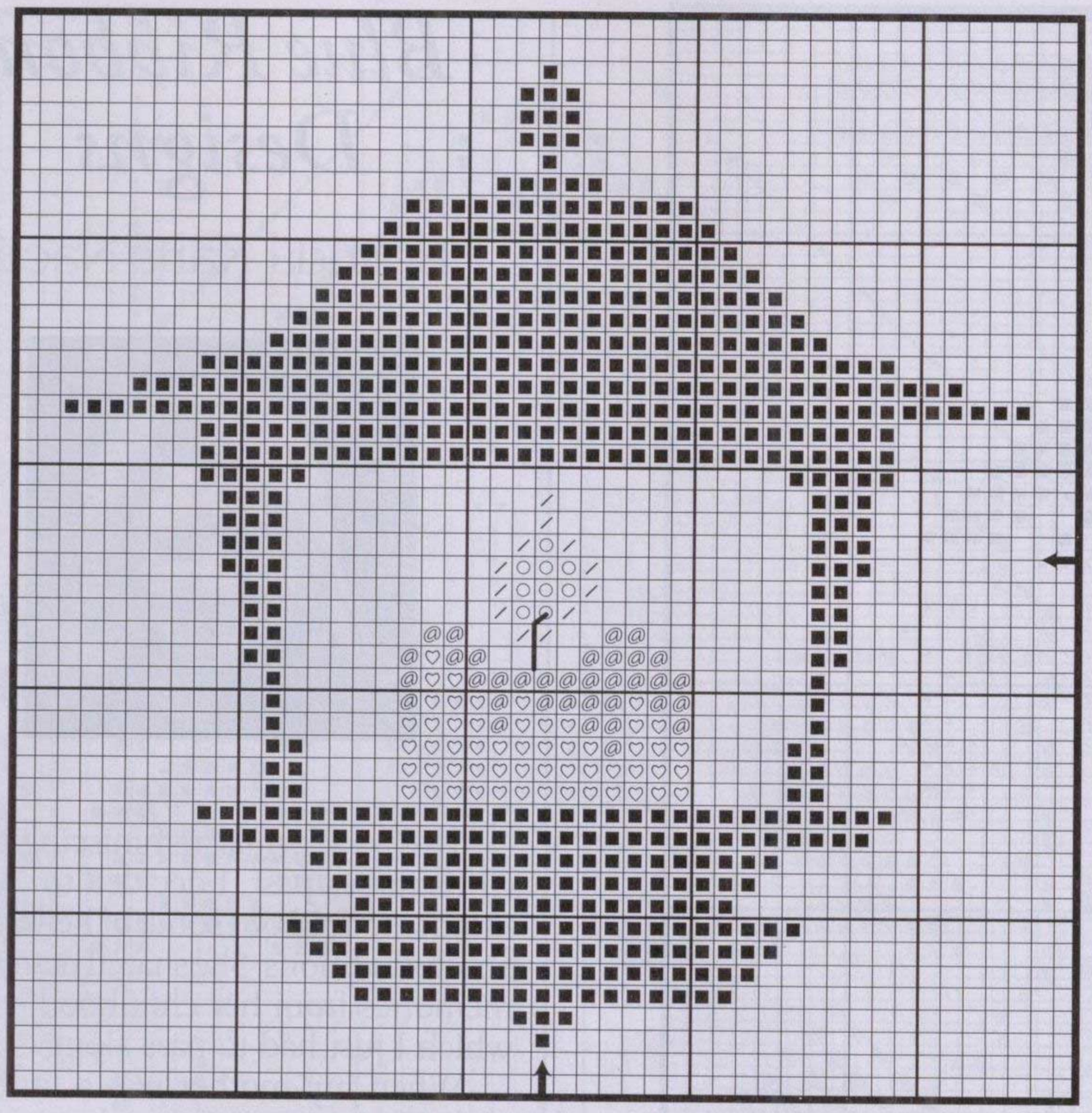
Designed by Jan Fate of Angel Stitchin

	DMC®	Anchor®	
/	726	295	topaz, lt.
○	3820	306	straw, dk.
@	815	44	garnet, med.
♡	304	19	red, med.
■	310	403	black

Just Another Button Company™
1113.T tiny frank's cardinal

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 28-count antique tan linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 44H x 43W
Design size: 3 1/4" x 3 1/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.



Backstitch over two threads, using one strand 310/403.

Attach button, using one strand of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

For top ring of candle holder, bend a 2" length of 24-gauge black wire around a pencil or dowel. Slip ends into linen and tack down, using one strand of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Finishing instructions: Model finished with plaid pillow with buttons from Stitcher's Station.

Angel Stitchin
Post Office Box 345
Irving, IL 62051
e-mail: *angelstitchin@aol.com*
Web site: *www.angelstitchin.com*

©2008 Angel Stitchin

Candle Light

Blackbird Designs

Barb Adams and Alma Allen

This cookie is my all-time favorite. The maple frosting on the shortbread cookie is the perfect blend of flavor and sweetness. Once I start eating these, I just can't quit. They are the best to take and share with friends. Spread the calories around! The recipe yields three dozen, which, believe me, is not enough!

Pecan Shortbread

1 c. butter, softened
2/3 c. sugar
1 Tbsp. vanilla extract
2 1/4 c. all-purpose flour
1/4 tsp. salt
1 egg white, beaten
1 1/4 c. chopped pecans

Frosting:
1 1/2 c. confectioners' sugar
3 Tbsp. butter, softened
2 Tbsp. half & half
3/4 tsp. maple extract

Preheat oven to 375°.

In a mixing bowl, beat together butter, sugar, and vanilla until creamy. Add flour and salt; mix until combined.

Shape dough into 1" balls. Dip each ball into beaten egg white and roll in pecans. Place 1" apart on an ungreased cookie sheet. Make an indentation in each cookie with thumb. Bake for 12 minutes, or until lightly browned. Cool.

In a mixing bowl, combine frosting ingredients and beat until creamy. Fill each cookie center with frosting.

Stocking Template

WINTER SONG

Designed by Alma Allen
of Blackbird Designs

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses
■ 1170 (3021) dark chocolate

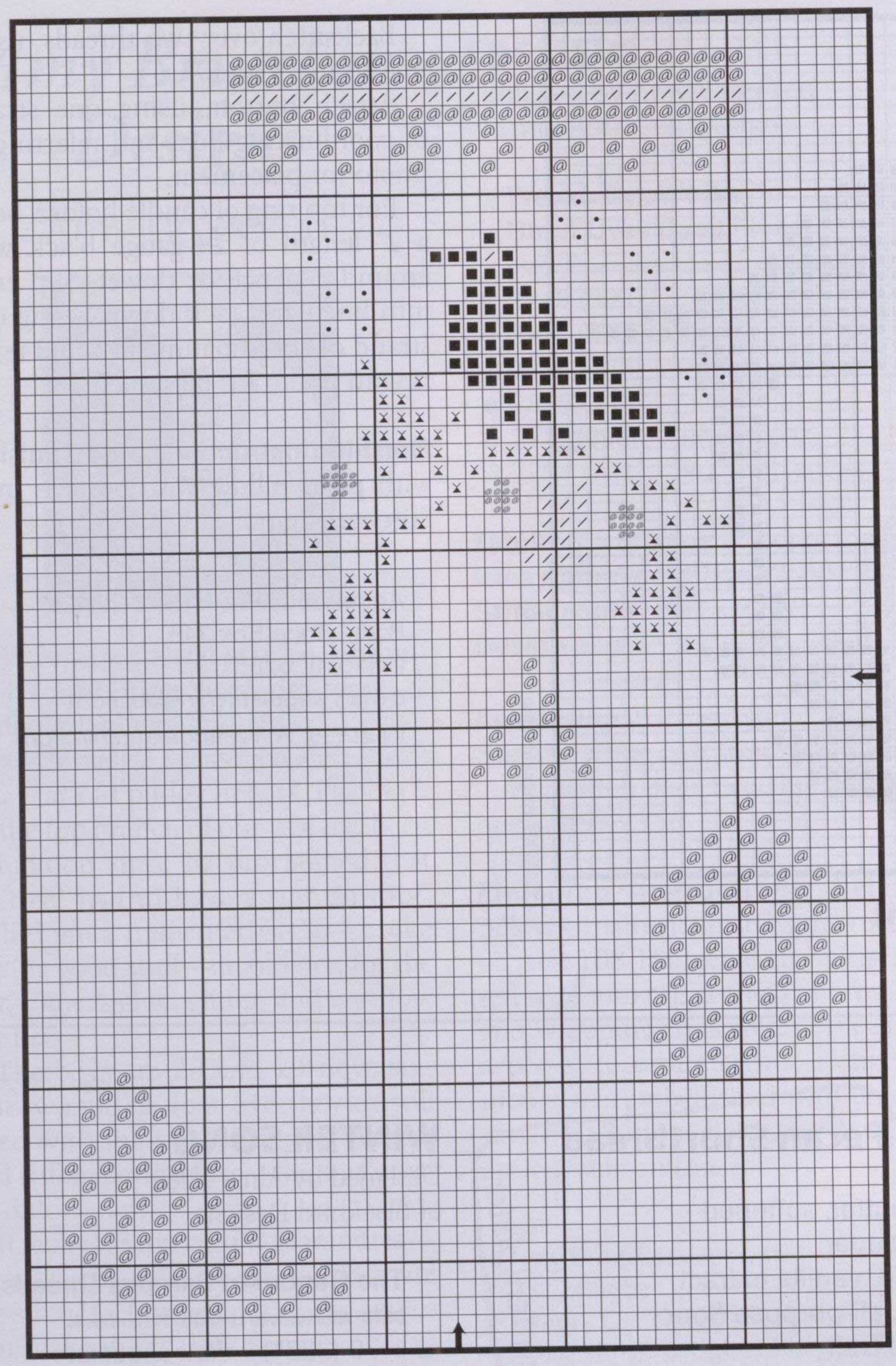
The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses
@ 7034 (355) gingersnap
• 7002 (712) straw bonnet

Crescent Colours Cotton Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses
⧗ bean sprout (732)

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses
/ 1193 (3348) guacamole

Fabric: 9" x 7" piece 30-count Korty's blend linen from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 71H x 44W
Design size: 4 3/4" x 3"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two



©2008 Blackbird Designs

Winter Song

threads, using two strands of floss. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear, using one strand of floss.

Personalize with initial (replacing "A"), if desired, using two strands 7034 and a favorite cross stitch alphabet.

Finishing instructions: Using template on previous page, cut out two pieces of lightweight fusible interfacing, reversing the stocking shape when cutting out the second piece of interfacing. Center one piece of interfacing, adhesive-side down, against wrong side of stitched piece, matching toe, heel, and top of stitched piece with corresponding edges of interfacing shape. Following manufacturer's instructions, fuse in place. Cut out stitched piece 1/4" beyond edge of interfacing. Finger press seam allowance to wrong side. Repeat process for remaining backing fabric and remaining piece of interfacing. Place stitched piece atop backing, wrong sides together. Pin in place. Using coordinating sewing thread, blind stitch together. Hanger made using 1/2"-wide coordinating ribbon.

Blackbird Designs
11065 West 175th Street
Olathe, KS 66062
e-mail: *alma@blackbird-designs.com*
Web site: *www.blackbird-designs.com*

Blue Ribbon Designs

Belinda Karls-Nace

This year while reminiscing about Christmases past, I decided to call my mother to find out some of her favorite family traditions. She shared many fond memories from her childhood, one of which I just had to pass along.

When my mother was a little girl, each Christmas Eve, as she took her evening bath she would anticipate Santa's visit. She would picture the lighted Christmas tree (Santa decorated their tree), the piles of presents, and the stockings full of tiny gifts. While envisioning the Christmas morning ahead, she would hear sleigh bells ringing. Could it be Santa? Was he arriving early? She would race from the bathtub, soaking wet, and swing open the bathroom door to get a glimpse of the jolly red-suited man; but Santa was nowhere in sight. Outside the door was a beautifully wrapped Christmas present—a brand-new pair of flannel pajamas! She would spend the rest of the evening wearing her new PJs, feeling extra special, as Santa had made an early stop "just for her."

Last year, before I had heard this story, I sent my mother a pair of flannel pajamas in a Christmas package. Looks like I may have started a new tradition.

May you have a blessed holiday season filled with special memories, family traditions, and a little time to stitch!

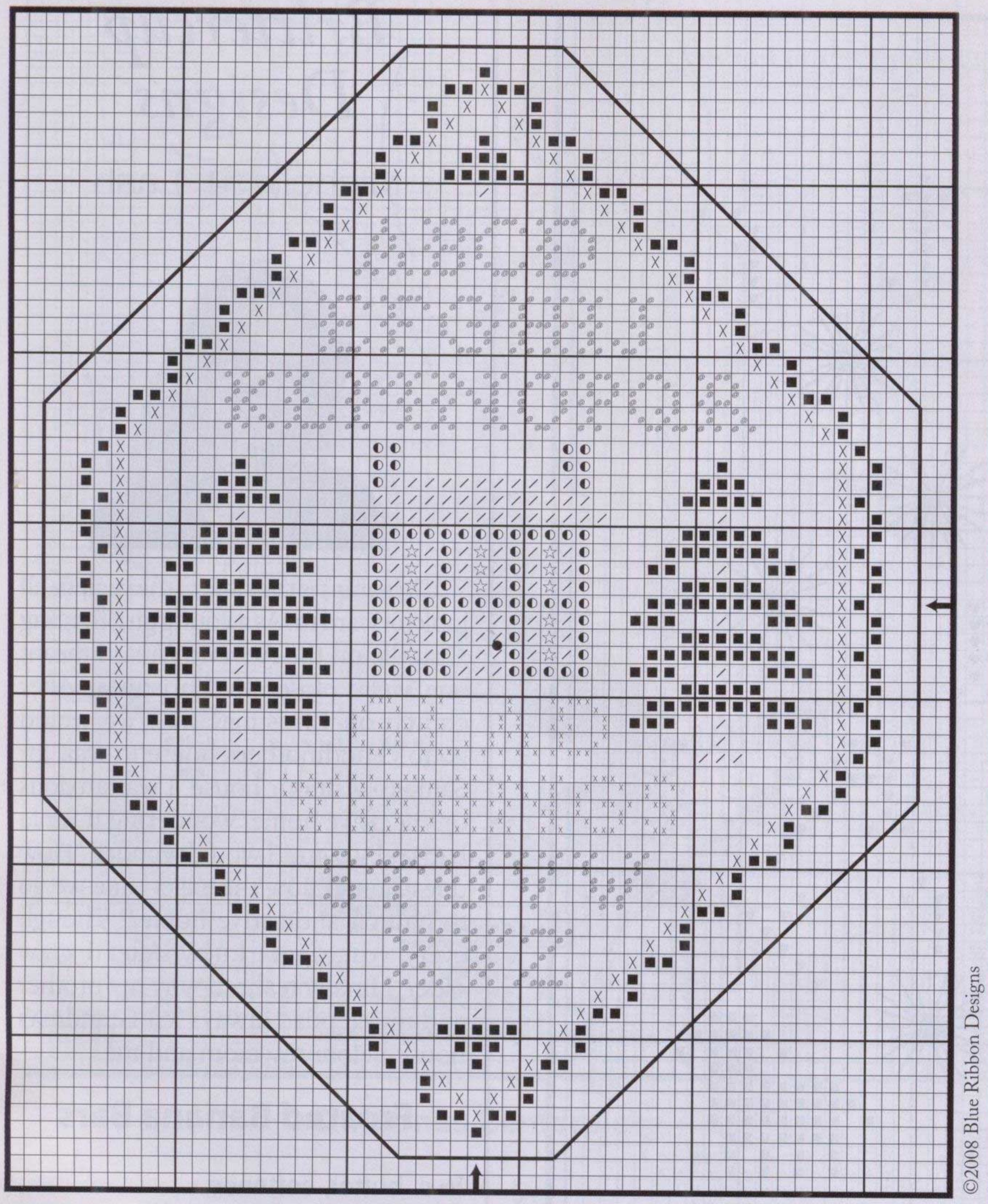
GLAD TIDINGS

Designed by Belinda Karls-Nace of Blue Ribbon Designs

Weeks Dye Works™
Hand Over Dyed Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

◐	3860 (902)	crimson
☆	2220 (3821)	curry
@	2264 (816)	garnet



©2008 Blue Ribbon Designs

Glad Tidings

/	2237 (435)	hazelnut
■	1279 (500)	holly
X	2156 (502)	hunter

Fabric: Two 8" x 8" pieces 32-count latte Country French linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 65H x 51W
Design size: 4 1/8" x 3 1/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear for lettering, using one strand of floss.

Backstitch over two threads for border, using two strands 1279.

Work French knot where • appears for door knob, using one strand 2220 and wrapping floss around needle once.

Finishing instructions: Repeat backstitched border on a second piece of linen. Press stitched pieces from back, straightening as much as possible. (**Note:** Do not use steam as hand-dyed colors may run.) Trim pieces to 1/4" from stitched border. Finger press seam allowance to wrong side. Place wrong sides of ornament together and lace together through backstitched border, using one strand 1279 and adding one Mill Hill® #02020 créme de mint bead with each lacing stitch. Leave a 2" opening to stuff ornament; stuff with fiberfill and continue lacing and adding beads. Twisted-cording hanger made using DMC® 890.

Blue Ribbon Designs
413 29th Street
West Des Moines, IA 50265
e-mail:
designer@blueribbondesigns.com
Web site:
www.blueribbondesigns.com

Brightneedle

Liz Knudsen and Ann Petit

This is a very old recipe that Liz's great-great-grandmother often prepared. In Liz's mom's handwriting, it says about this bread: "This bread is remembered by my mother as being very delicious and was very popular with the many relatives who came often for meals."

Potato Bread

2 1/2 c. lukewarm mashed potatoes
1 (2-oz.) pkg. yeast, dissolved in 2 Tbsp. lukewarm water
2 1/2 c. bread flour, divided
2 1/2 tsp. baking soda
1 1/2 Tbsp. sugar

In a large bowl, combine potatoes and dissolved yeast. Add 1/2 cup flour; allow to rise until light. Add remaining flour, mixing until combined. Allow to rise in a warm place until tripled in volume.

Grease a baking sheet; set aside. Shape dough into two loaves; place loaves on prepared baking sheet and allow to rest until doubled in size.

Preheat oven to 350°. Bake for 45–50 minutes, or until loaf sounds hollow.

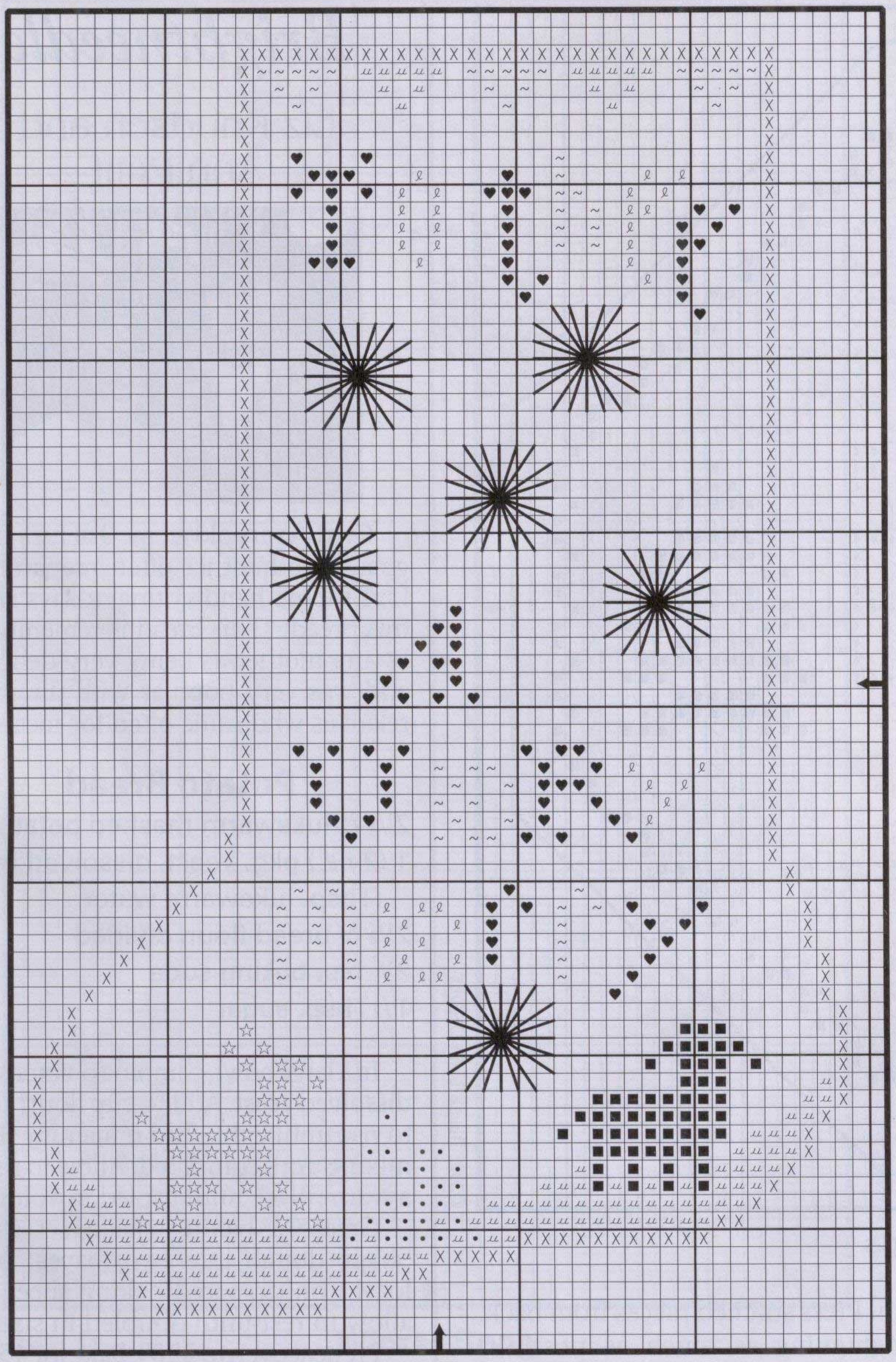
TO THEE A VERY MERRY...

Designed by Liz Knudsen and Ann Petit of Brightneedle

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

•	1174 (648)	tin roof
X	1223 (831)	Schneckley
☆	1228 (435)	pecan
ℓ	1321 (223)	Williamsburg
♥	1333 (221)	Lancaster red
ш	2196 (3364)	scuppernong
~	2198 (320)	ivy
■	4129 (3021)	swamp water
	1086 (blanc)	icicle

Fabric: 7" x 6" piece 32-count light espresso linen from R & R Reproductions



©2008 Brightneedle

To Thee A Very Merry

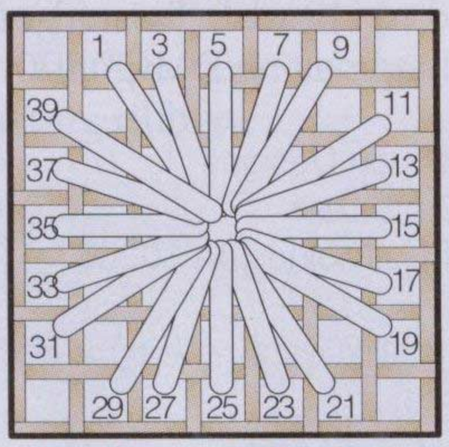
Stitch count: 73H x 47W
Design size: 2 3/8" x 1 1/2"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one thread, using one strand of floss.

Work eyelet stitch variation over six threads, using one strand 1086 and pulling each leg gently to open center of stitch.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament instructions on page 108. Twisted-cording trim and hanger made using Weeks Dye Works™ 2196 scuppernong floss. Bow made using 1/8"-diameter white grosgrain ribbon.

Brightneedle
457 Castle Street
Geneva, NY 14456
e-mail: *pettitam@fltg.net*
Web site: *www.brightneedle.com*



Eyelet Stitch Variation (Over Six)

Brittercup Designs

Michelle M. Lash

Christmas is the time of the year we all look forward to. As a young girl, lighting a candle on the Advent Wreath meant one week closer to Christmas. After church on Christmas Eve, we would go to Grandmother's house to wait for Santa to visit our house. I was anxious on the drive home, wondering if Santa had really come. I would wonder, "How does Santa know the exact time we go to church and arrive home?" Though every year, Santa knew. After I grew older, I finally realized why my brother and my stepdad always left Grandma's house before my mom and me.

Frosted Banana Bars

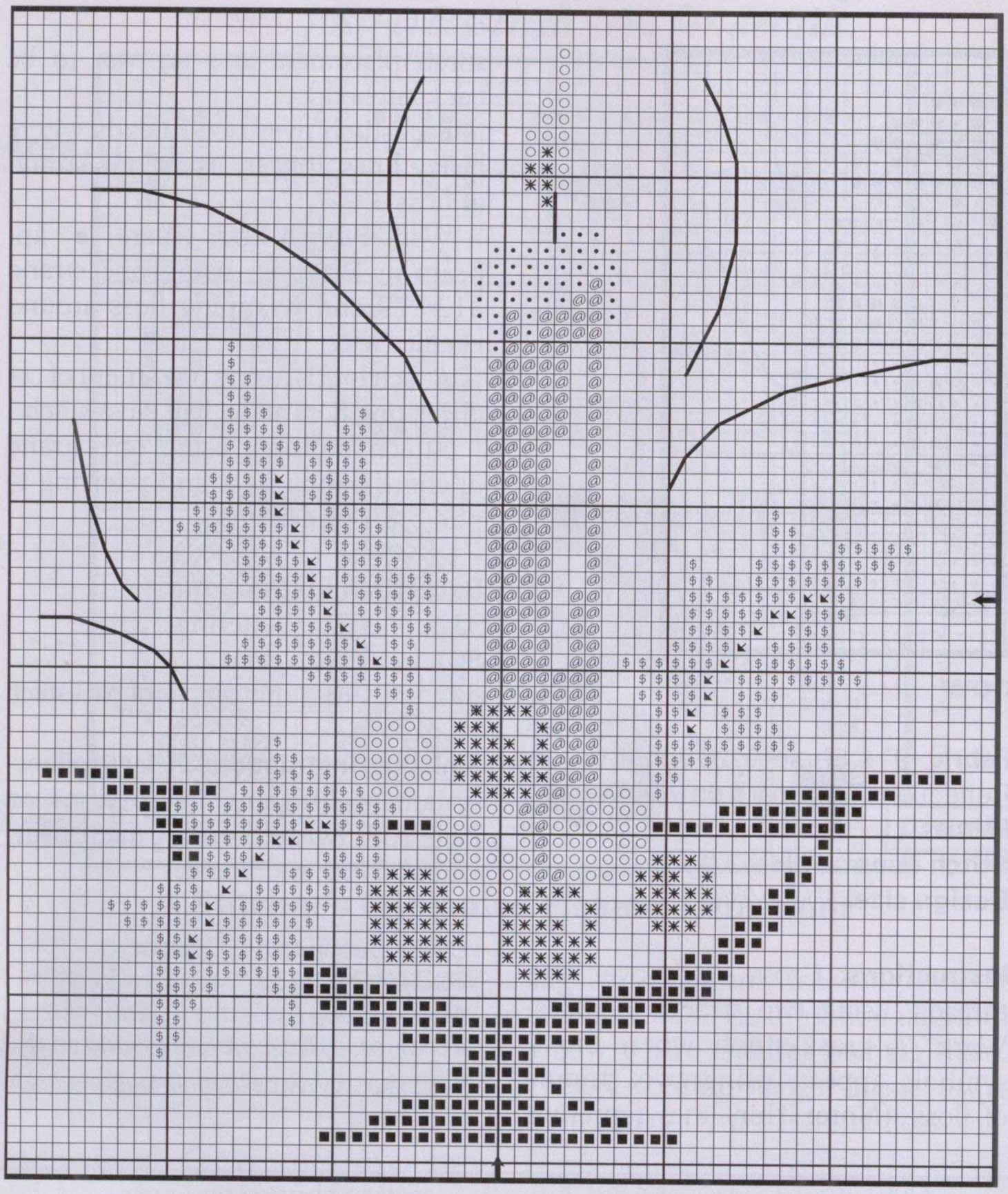
1/2 c. butter, softened
2 c. sugar
3 eggs
1 1/2 c. mashed ripe bananas (about 3 medium bananas)
1 tsp. vanilla extract
2 c. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking soda
Pinch of salt

Frosting:
1/2 c. butter, softened
1 (8-oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened
4 c. confectioners' sugar
2 tsp. vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease a 15" x 10" x 1" baking pan; set aside.

In a mixing bowl, beat together butter and sugar until creamy. Add eggs, bananas, and vanilla; mix well.

In a medium bowl, combine flour, baking soda, and salt. Add to butter mixture and mix well. Pour into prepared pan. Bake for 25 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in middle of bars comes out clean. Cool.



Christmas Centerpiece

In a mixing bowl, beat together butter and cream cheese for frosting until creamy. Gradually add confectioners' sugar and vanilla; mix well. Spread over bars.

Makes about three dozen.

CHRISTMAS CENTERPIECE

Designed by Michelle M. Lash
of Brittercup Designs

Fabric: 9" x 8" piece 28-count Queen Anne's lace hand-dyed linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 67H x 56W
Design size: 4 7/8" x 4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one thread, using one strand of floss.

Backstitch over one thread, using one strand 1304.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Ribbon was made using 1"-wide ribbon. Beaded trim made using coordinating Mill Hill® beads.

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■	1304 (310)	onyx
◤	1277 (3362)	collards
•	2109 (827)	Morris blue
@	2111 (334)	sky
$	2196 (3364)	scuppernong

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

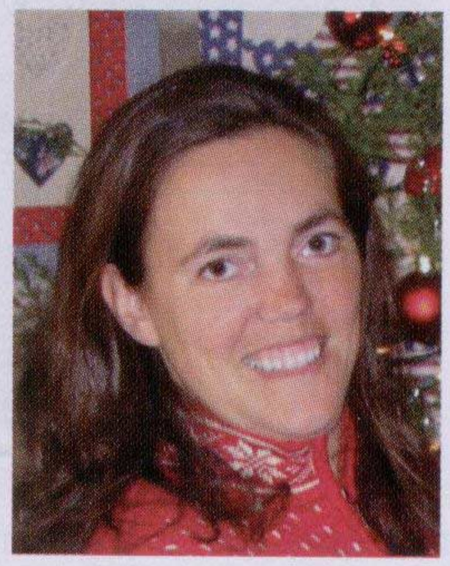
✳	0311 (498)	holly berry
○	0470 (3820)	buttercrunch

Brittercup Designs
3788 Clermont Avenue NW
North Lawrence, OH 44666
e-mail: *michelle@brittercupdesigns.com*
Web site: *www.brittercupdesigns.com*

©2008 Brittercup Designs

Casey Buonaugurio Designs

Casey Buonaugurio



I love this recipe that my mom always makes when we go home for the holidays. She got it from her Aunt Shirley, and it's one of my all-time favorites. It makes a great appetizer for a Christmas party or a good "movie snack." I hope you enjoy it as well. Merry Christmas!

Aunt Shirley's Cheese Ball

1 (8-oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened
1/2 c. chopped pecans
1/2 c. chopped onion
1/8 tsp. lemon juice
1 c. grated Cheddar cheese
1/4 c. milk
Dried chopped parsley
Crackers (optional)

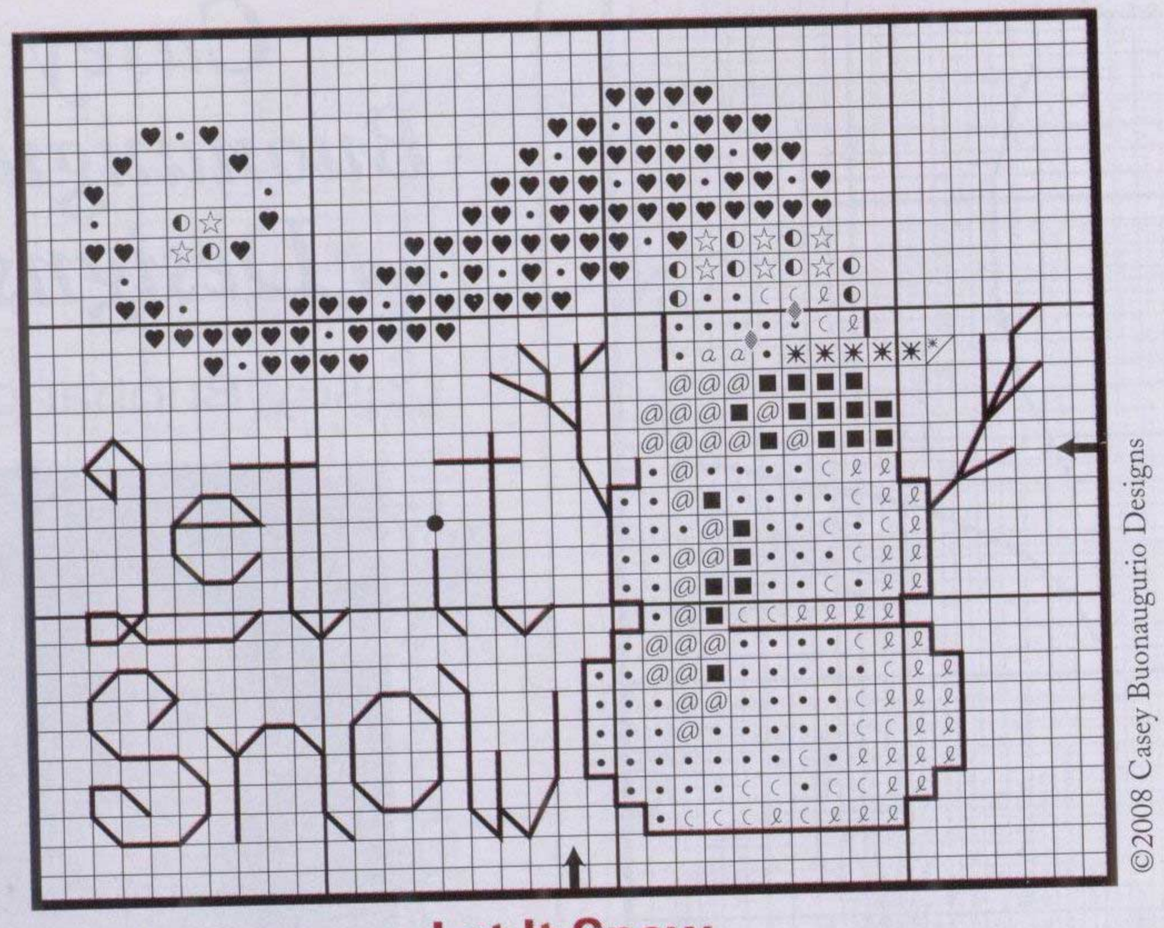
In a medium bowl, combine cream cheese, pecans, onion, lemon juice, cheese, and milk. Mix well and form into a ball. (**Note:** Mixture will be messy.) Cover ball and refrigerate overnight.

Roll ball in parsley flakes to coat and serve with crackers, if desired.

LET IT SNOW

Designed by Casey Buonaugurio
of Casey Buonaugurio Designs

	DMC®	Anchor®	
◐	801	359	coffee brown, dk.
♥	321	47	red
■	312	979	baby blue, vy. dk.
✳	741	304	tangerine, med.
a	3689	49	mauve, lt.
•	blanc	2	white
☾	3756	1037	baby blue, ul. vy. lt.



©2008 Casey Buonaugurio Designs

Let It Snow

ℓ	3753	1031	antique blue, ul. vy. lt.
☆	3773	1008	desert sand, med.
@	799	145	Delft blue, med.
	3755	140	baby blue

Mill Hill® Petite Seed Beads

◆	40374	rainbow

Just Another Button Company™

4442.S	small snowflake
4442.T	tiny snowflake

Fabric: 9" x 8" piece 28-count ocean Reflections Lugana from Silkweaver Fabrics
Stitch count: 26H x 33W
Design size: 1 7/8" x 2 3/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Work 3/4 cross stitch where small symbols appear, using two strands of floss. (**Note:** Thin lines represent stitch placement and are not to be backstitched.)

Backstitch over two threads where heavy lines appear, using one strand of floss.

Work French knot where • appears in lettering, using one strand 312/979 and wrapping floss around needle twice.

Attach beads, using one strand of coordinating floss and a half cross stitch.

Attach buttons, using one strand of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Backstitch instructions:

312	979	lettering
801	359	arms
3755	140	remainder of backstitch

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Twisted cording made using DMC® 3755 and blanc.

Casey Buonaugurio Designs
PSC 47 Box 1255
APO, AE 09470
e-mail: *casey@caseybuonaugurio.com*
Web site: *www.caseybuonaugurio.com*

The Cat's Whiskers Design Studio

Janie Hubble

One Christmas, when our two children were still in primary school, we decided we would buy them new bikes as their "big Christmas present." We spent several months paying the bikes off and arranged for the owners of the store to hold on to them for us until Christmas Eve. We even devised an elaborate plan to ensure that we would get the bikes home without the kids seeing them and felt very proud that we had managed this difficult task.

Once we'd gotten the kids into bed for the night and were sure they were asleep, we set to work on the next part of our plan. We had decided to set up a Christmas Treasure Hunt, with lots of notes and clues, placing string to follow around the house and garden, and culminating in them finding their brand-new bikes at the end of the game. It took us hours to get the whole thing into place. We fell into bed exhausted but happy knowing that we had put together "the best Christmas yet."

We were so tired, in fact, that we slept through the kids getting up at dawn and heading straight to the bikes (not following the clues and notes and lengths of string around the house and garden at all!). We woke up to the sounds of them riding around outside with great grins on their faces. When quizzed, they sheepishly admitted that they had both been wide awake whilst we were setting up the treasure hunt. They had seen where we had hidden the bikes and headed straight to the spot when they got up!

The moral of this story? However involved and convoluted your plans for Christmas might be, it's the smiles on the faces of your family and loved ones that count the most at Christmastime.

Wishing you, your family, and the people you cherish a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

A STITCHER'S CHRISTMAS PINKEEP ORNAMENT

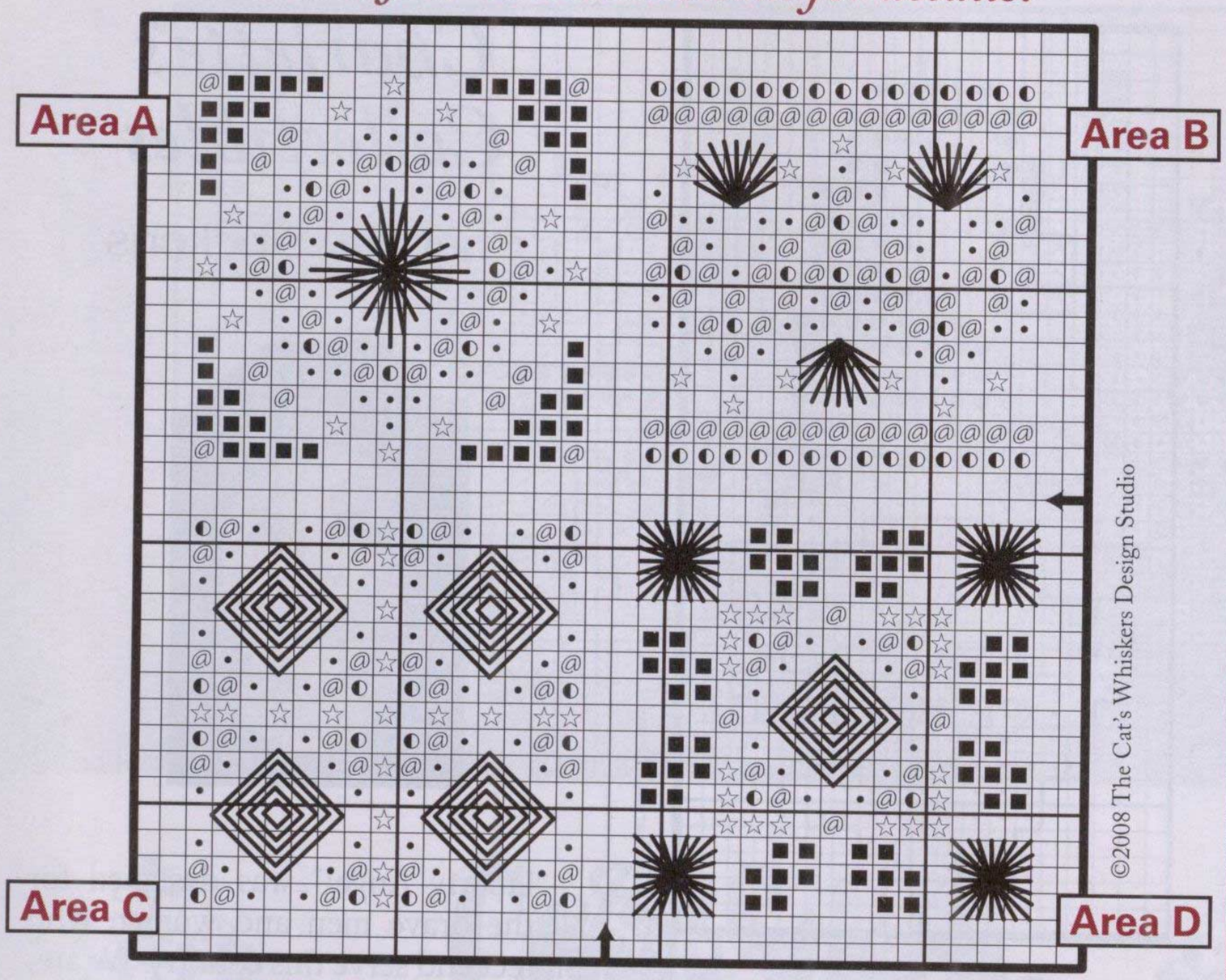
Designed by Janie Hubble
of The Cat's Whiskers Design Studio

Dinky Dyes Silk Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■	52 (924)	emerald
◐	90 (552)	orchid
@	116 (326)	bottlebrush
•	142 (732)	gidgee
☆	143 (783)	lost gold
	148 (n/a)	Janie's Christmas

A kit is available for this project. Please go to www.just-crossstitch.com for details.



A Stitcher's Christmas Pinkeep Ornament

Fabric: 6" x 6" piece 32-count gold/raw Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 32H x 32W
Design size: 2" x 2"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Work diamond Rhodes stitch over twelve threads in Area A, using two strands 148.

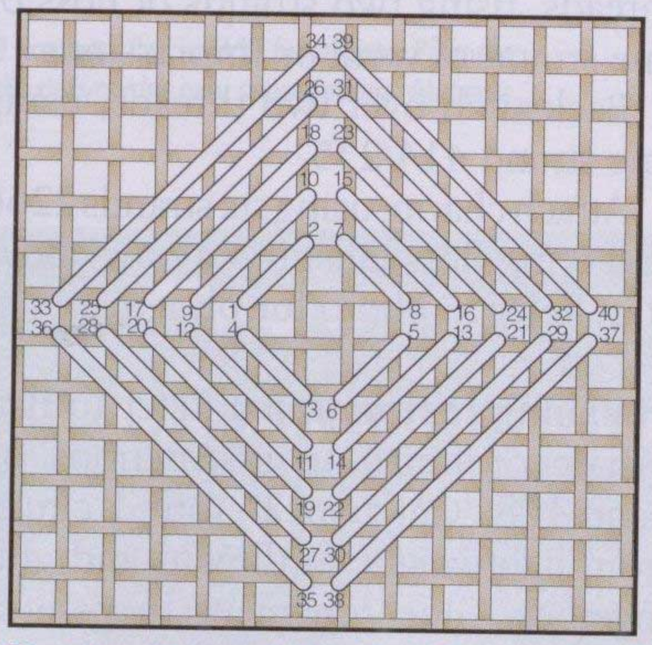
Work shell stitch over five threads in Area B, using two strands 148.

Work God's-eye stitch over ten threads in Areas C and D, using two strands 148.

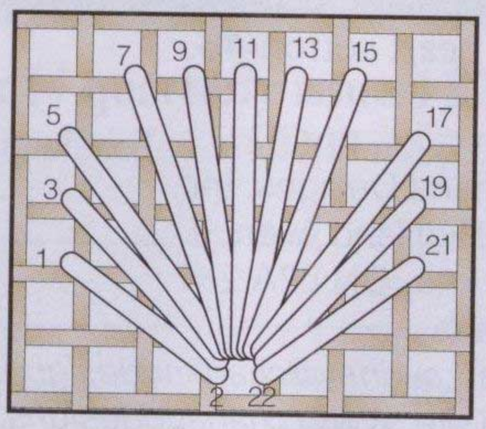
Work Rhodes stitch over six threads in Area D, using two strands 148.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. To create ruched trim, sew a running stitch through the center of a 60" length of Dinky Dyes #148 8mm silk ribbon, using sewing thread and a sharp needle, and leaving 6" free at each end of ribbon. Gather ribbon along sewing thread. Knot remaining end of sewing thread at a point that will allow the ruched portion of ribbon to fit snugly around edge of ornament. Distribute gathers evenly along sewing thread. Match knotted end of sewing thread to top corner of ornament; pin in place using a purple pearl-head straight pin. Pin ribbon in place around edge of ornament, inserting pins at even intervals. Tie 6" ribbon tails into a bow where ends of ruching meet. Twisted-cording hanger made using from Dinky Dyes #148 silk floss.

The Cat's Whiskers Design Studio
35 Bailey Road
Lesmurdie, Western Australia 6076
e-mail: *janie@thecatswhiskers.net.au*
Web site: *www.thecatswhiskers.net.au*



God's-Eye Stitch (Over Ten)



Shell Stitch (Over Five)

Charland Designs, Inc.

Charland Garvin

When our children were small, our Christmas card was usually based on a photo. The scene was carefully planned with some sort of matching outfits, and it was essential to take the photo quickly. Our first card pictured two children, and over the years, we added more kids—three and finally four. The photo above is one of my favorite family photos and, of course, was not selected to use as the Christmas shot.

We struggled to get the three children positioned, hanging their stockings in front of the fireplace. We would get two kids in place, and the third would wander off; or they would start fidgeting and fighting amongst themselves. You can see by the look on Sydney's face that she was absolutely fed up with the whole idea and thought she would be safe by crawling under the table. In the end, we finally did get a shot that was usable, but it doesn't make me smile nearly as much as the one of Sydney under the table in her bright red nightie and striped cap.

Going from red nightgowns to red cranberries, the following recipe was giving to me by a co-worker when we lived in Massachusetts. It's a delicious cake, and the cranberries make it a perfect coffee cake for the holidays. Be sure to leave out a small piece for Santa.

Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!

Cranberry Coffee Cake

1 c. sugar
½ c. butter, softened
2 eggs
2¼ c. all-purpose flour

1 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
1 (8-oz.) container sour cream
1 tsp. almond extract
1 (16-oz.) can whole berry cranberry sauce
1/2 c. chopped nuts

Glaze:
3/4 c. confectioners' sugar
2 Tbsp. warm water
1 tsp. almond extract

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease a tube or Bundt® pan; set aside.

In a mixing bowl, beat together sugar and butter until creamy. Add eggs one at a time, mixing well after each addition.

In a large bowl, combine flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. Add flour mixture to butter mixture, alternating with sour cream. Add almond extract. Mix well, but do not overbeat.

Pour 1/2 of batter in prepared pan. Spoon 1/2 of cranberry sauce on top of batter. Repeat for remaining batter and sauce. Sprinkle nuts on top of cranberry sauce.

Bake for 50–55 minutes. Cool for 5 minutes and remove from pan.

In a small bowl, combine glaze ingredients and mix well. Drizzle over cake.

SANTA TOPPER

Designed by Charland Garvin
of Charland Designs, Inc.

DMC® Anchor®

~	754	1012	peach, lt.
✳	223	895	shell pink, lt.
▲	798	146	Delft blue, dk.
○	758	9575	terra cotta, vy. lt.
	414	235	steel gray, dk.

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥	2266 (321)	Turkish red

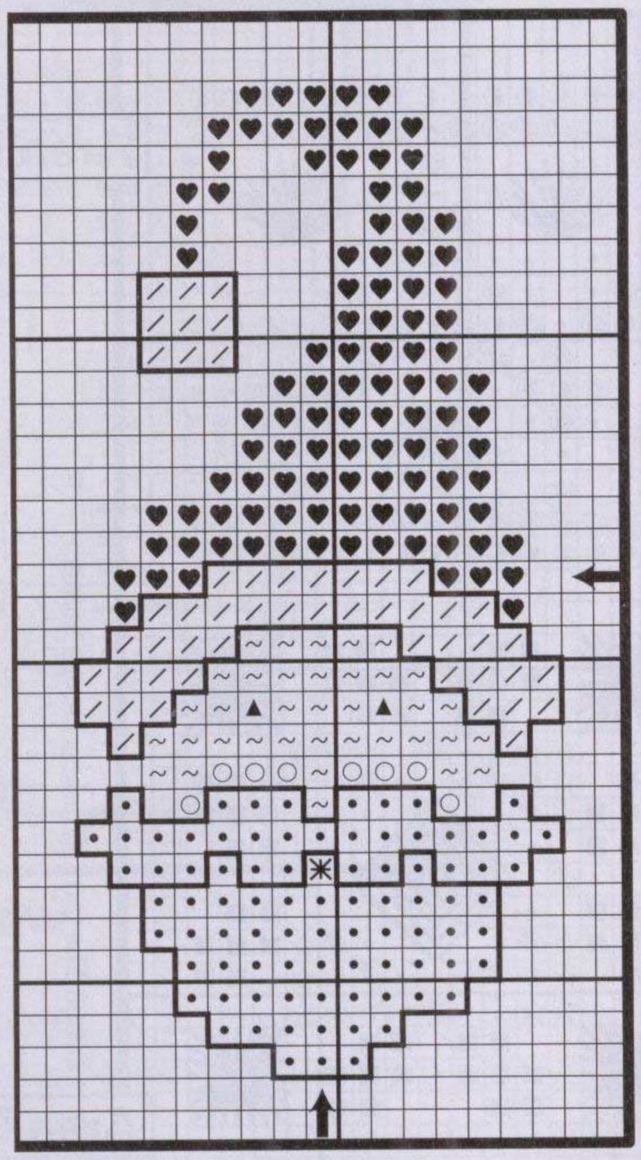
The Gentle Art Simply Wool
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

/	1140W (822)	oatmeal

The Caron Collection Impressions®
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

•	100 (3865)	snow

Charland Designs Inc. Sterling Silver Charm
teeny tiny star charm



©2008 Charland Designs, Inc.

Santa Topper

Charland Designs Inc.
Santa topper ornament base

Fabric: 6" x 5" piece 32-count putty Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 31H x 15W
Design size: 2" x 1"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of wool or Impressions.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand 414/235.

Attach charm, using six strands 2266 and tying floss tails into a bow above star. Refer to photo for placement.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Cut two 2" round circles from lightweight cardboard and glue together. Glue ornament to painted wooden snowflake base. Twisted cording was made using 2266 and DMC® blanc pearl cotton #8.

Charland Designs, Inc.
244 Highland Avenue
Fort Erie, ON L2A 2X7
Canada
e-mail: *sydney@charlanddesigns.com*
Web site: *www.charlanddesigns.com*

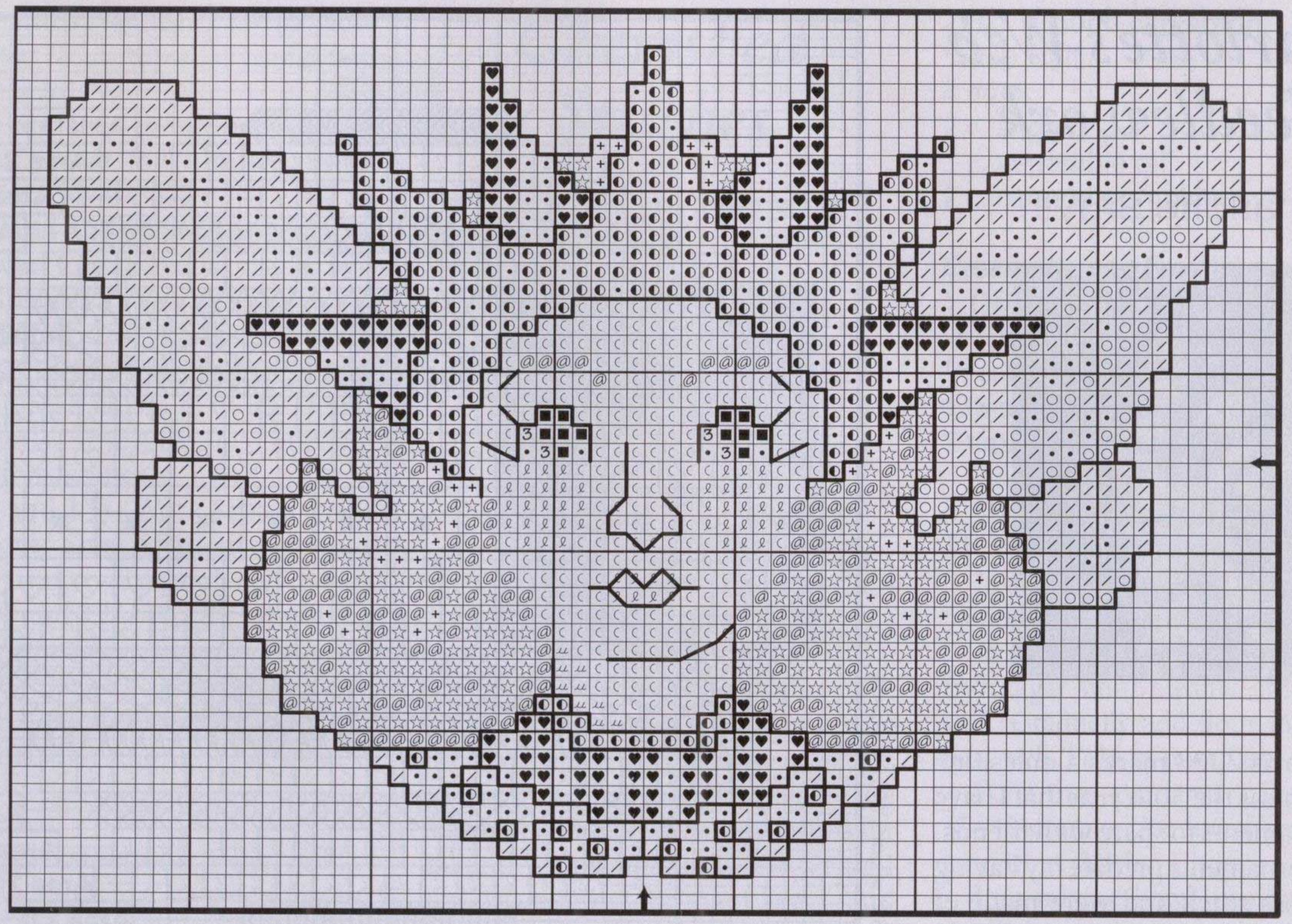
Charlette's Collectibles

Charlette Dockens

"Liberty Angel" was designed for all the brave men and women who protect and serve this country. We are, indeed, the home of the free because of the brave. My father, a career Army officer, was at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and served his country through WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. My husband, also a career Army officer, served during the Korean and Vietnam wars. At this time, many of our friends have brave souls defending us all over the world and here at home. We are honored by their service.

We have traveled all over the world, and some of our fondest Christmas memories include having troops and friends share Christmas dinner with us because we were all so far away from home. In this way, many of those who shared the season with us became the family we left at home and remain so today. Since we have lived all over the world, our family has a deep and binding appreciation of what this country offers its citizens and believe that we should never take for granted what we have been blessed with. We especially wish to thank those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for this country's liberty.

This dessert is an easy-to-make cake for large gatherings. Since it makes two pans, there is plenty for all. Blueberry or apple pie filling may be substituted for the cherry filling.



Liberty Angel

Cherry Cheesecake

1 (18.25-oz.) pkg. white cake mix
2 (8-oz.) pkgs. cream cheese, softened
4 c. confectioners' sugar
1 pt. whipping cream, whipped
2 (21-oz.) cans cherry pie filling

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease two 13" x 9" x 2" baking pans; set aside.

Prepare cake mix according to manufacturer's directions. Divide batter and pour into prepared pans.

Bake for 20 minutes. Remove from oven and let cool.

In a mixing bowl, beat together cream cheese and sugar until creamy; gently fold in whipped cream. Spread over each cake; top with pie filling. Refrigerate for 4 hours, or overnight.

Makes 24–30 servings.

LIBERTY ANGEL

Designed by Charlette Dockens of Charlette's Collectibles

	DMC®	Anchor®	
•	blanc	2	white
/	3756	1037	baby blue, ul. vy. lt.
○	775	128	baby blue, vy. lt.
◐	336	150	navy blue
+	676	891	old gold, lt.
☆	729	890	old gold, med.
@	435	365	brown, vy. lt.
☾	754	1012	peach, lt.
⩊	758	9575	terra cotta, vy. lt.
ℓ	3326	36	rose, lt.
♥	498	1005	red, dk.
■	938	381	coffee brown, ul. dk.
3	322	978	baby blue, dk.

Fabric: 6" x 7" piece 14-count white perforated plastic from Yarn Tree
Stitch count: 46H x 66W
Design size: 3¼" x 4¾"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one square, using three strands of floss.

Backstitch over one square, using one strand of floss.

Backstitch instructions:

435	365	eyebrow
938	381	remainder of backstitch

Finishing instructions: Trim stitched piece to one square from stitching. Using trimmed stitched piece as a template, cut out backing from coordinating fabric. Position hanger on ornament and glue fabric to back of stitched piece.

Charlette's Collectibles
1824 Octubre Street
El Paso, TX 79935
e-mail: *toocute@elp.rr.com*
Web site: *www.charlettescollectibles.com*

Charlotte's Web Needlework

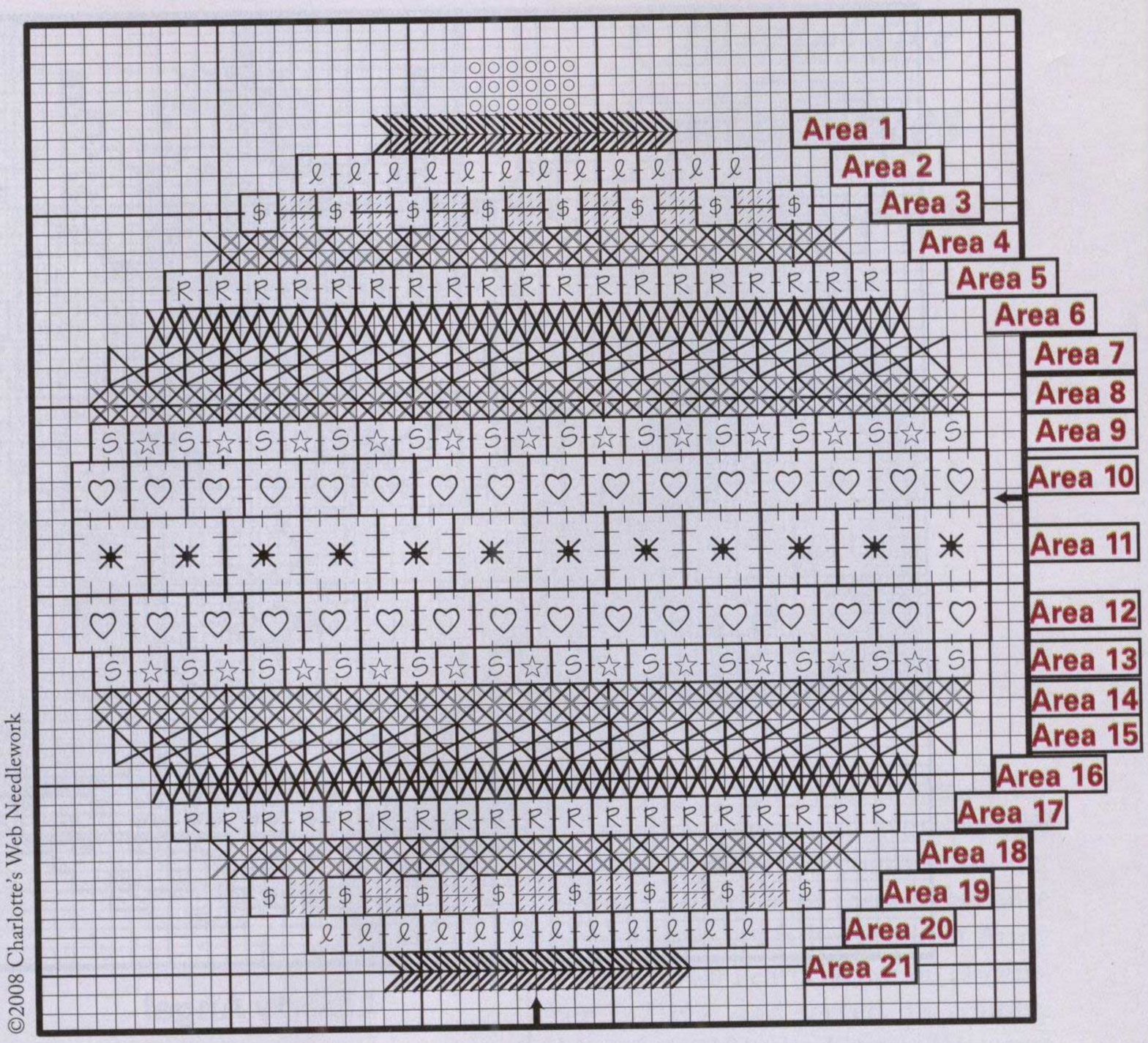
Charlotte Smyth

Christmas 2008 marks a milestone for me. This is the 30th year that I have made ornaments to share with friends. The first ornaments predate my having found cross stitch and were made of felt. It was the first year that I had a real job, not part–time student things; we were not having a gift exchange, and I decided I wanted to do something more than just cards. Inspired by ornaments that my aunt Harriett had sent, I made the first ones. Little did I know what it would lead to. At the time, I thought it was a one-year thing, and it probably would have been if after Christmas my colleagues hadn't said how much they had enjoyed them.

Over the years, it has grown massively, and it has not been confined to Christmas. When my parents or I have traveled, we have taken some with us to give to people we meet. As part of his job, my father took a study tour to the Middle East. When I asked him to take some ornaments, he said that he really didn't have space. I am afraid that I persisted and, like the good daddy he was, he found a place. When he got home, he told me how glad he was to have them as they visited a project where Palestinian women were doing needlework to earn money. He brought back a doll with a dress decorated with cross stitch! Today, there are little bits of my stitching all over the world; I hope that even if the recipients don't remember who gave them the ornament that they smile each year when they decorate.

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to the designers and editors of the *Just CrossStitch Ornaments* issue for producing such a great magazine, and a big thank you especially to those who stitch the ornaments. Without you, it would be much harder for me to find all the designs I need.

May you have a memorable, happy and peaceful Christmas.



©2008 Charlotte's Web Needlework

Silver Stitches

SILVER STITCHES

Designed by Charlotte Smyth of Charlotte's Web Needlework

DMC®	Anchor®	
/ blanc	2	white (tent stitch)
$ blanc	2	white (Scotch stitch)
♡ blanc	2	white (eyelet stitch)
ℓ 927	849	gray-green, med. (ray stitch)
S 927	849	gray-green, med. (Scotch stitch)
R 927	849	gray-green, med. (Smyrna cross stitch)
☆ 927	849	gray-green, med. (reverse Scotch stitch)
ℓ 927	849	gray-green, med. (ray stitch)
3743	869	antique violet, vy. lt.

DMC® Light Effects
Precious Metal

Anchor® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

○ E168 (300) silver
✳ E168 (300) silver (Rhodes stitch)

Fabric: 9" x 9" piece 32-count antique white Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 49H x 48W
Design size: 3¼" x 3"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using three strands of floss.

Areas 1 and 21—Work horizontal fly stitch over four threads, using two strands 3743/869.

Areas 2 and 20—Work ray stitch over four threads, using two strands 927/849.

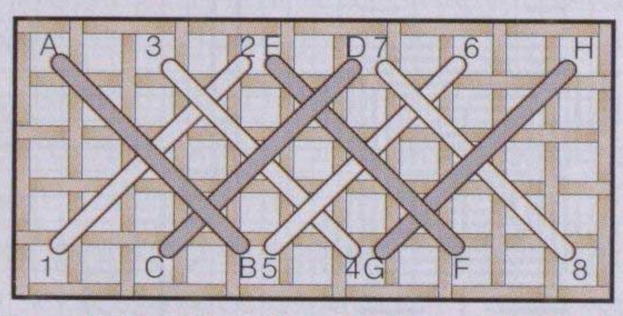
Areas 3 and 19—Work Scotch stitch over four threads, using two strands blanc/2. Work tent stitch where small symbols appear, using one strand blanc/2.

Areas 4 and 18—Work double-herringbone stitch over four threads, using one strand blanc/2 for gray lines and one strand 3743/869 for black lines.

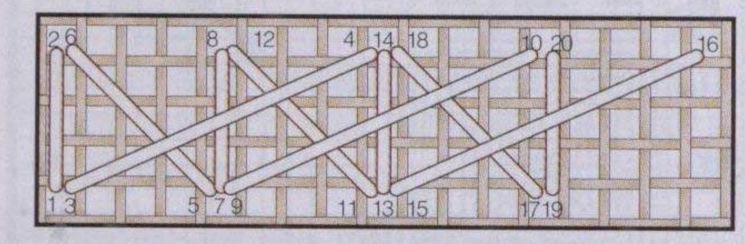
Areas 5 and 17—Work Smyrna cross stitch over four threads, using two strands 927/849.
Areas 6 and 16—Work tied upright cross stitch over four threads, using two strands 3743/869.
Areas 7 and 15—Work Montenegrin stitch over four threads, using two strands blanc/2.
Areas 8 and 14—Work rice stitch over four threads, using one strand E168 for base cross (gray lines) and two strands 3743/869 for couching stitches (black lines).
Areas 9 and 13—Work Scotch stitch and reverse Scotch stitch over four threads, using two strands 927/849.
Areas 10 and 12—Work eyelet stitch over six threads, using two strands blanc/2.
Area 11—Work Rhodes stitch over eight threads, using one strand E168.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page ??. Twisted-cording made from DMC® 927.

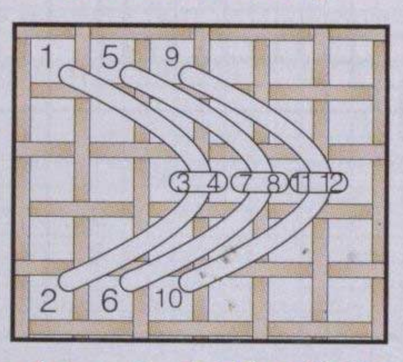
Charlotte's Web Needlework
13 Bridge Court, The Arc
Stanley Road, Harrow
Middlesex HA2 8FE
e-mail: *charlotteswebneedlework@yahoo.co.uk*
Web site:
www.charlotteswebneedlework.com



Double-Herringbone Stitch (Over Four)



Montenegrin Stitch (Over Four)



Horizontal-Fly Stitch (Over Four)

Cherished Stitches

Louise Henderson

This is a recipe I found not long after Bob and I got married, and it is one of my husband's favorites. The cake is very moist, and it's delicious for fall and winter holidays. The recipe I had was missing for many years, and I only recently found it again. It was a hit with everyone.

Pumpkin Cake

2 c. all-purpose flour
2 tsp. baking soda
2 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/2 tsp. salt
4 eggs
2 c. sugar
1 c. vegetable oil
2 c. canned pumpkin

Cream Cheese Frosting:
1 (16-oz.) box confectioners' sugar, sifted
1/2 c. butter, softened
1 (8-oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened
2 tsp. vanilla extract

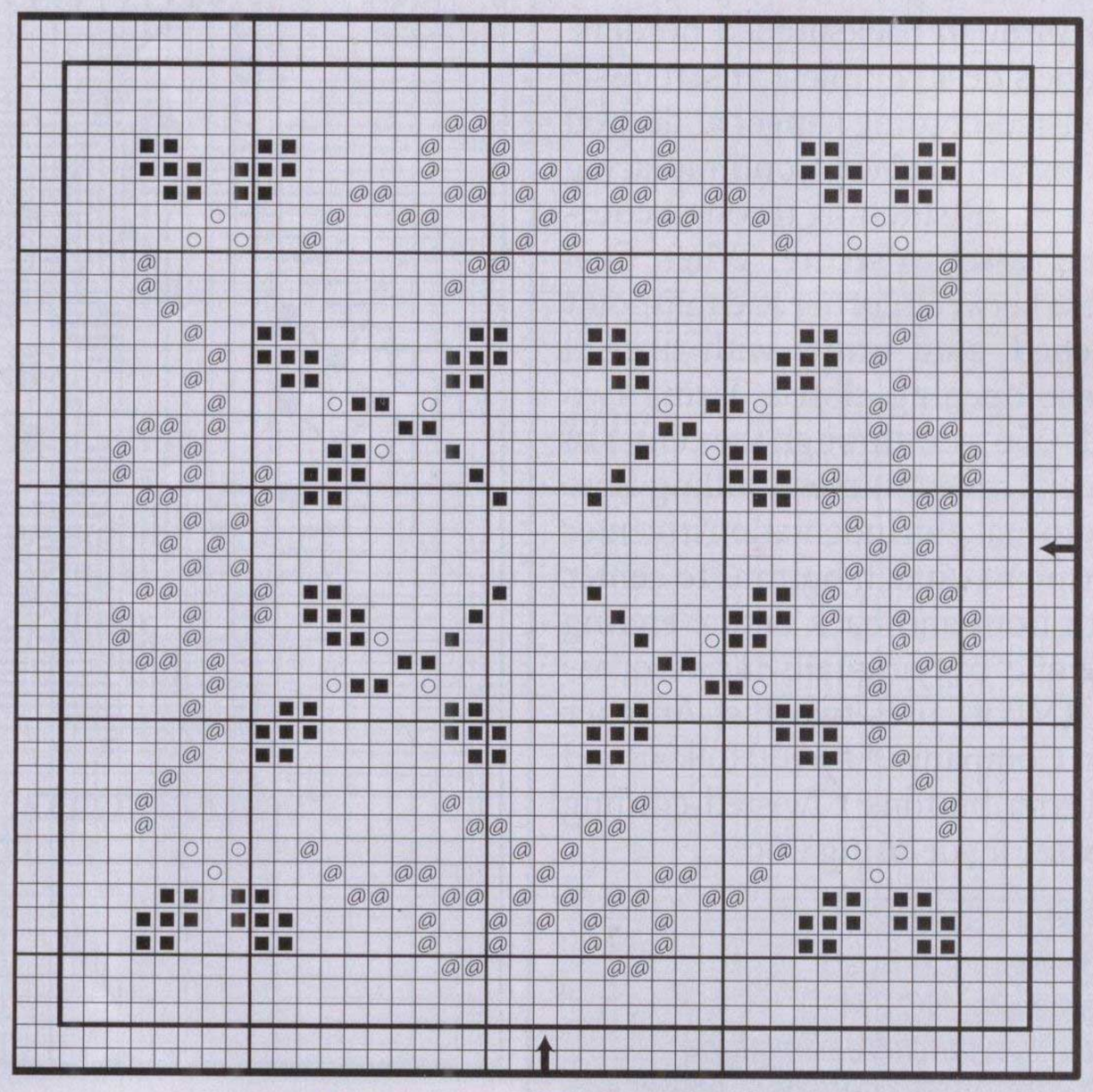
Preheat oven to 350°. Grease one 9"x 13" baking pan; set aside.

In a large bowl, sift together flour, baking soda, cinnamon, and salt.

In a mixing bowl, beat together eggs and sugar until creamy. Add oil; mix well. Gradually add flour mixture and beat well. Fold in pumpkin.

Pour into prepared pan. Bake for 35–40 minutes. Remove from oven and let cool in pan for 1 hour.

In a mixing bowl, combine confectioners' sugar, butter, and cream cheese; beat until creamy. Add vanilla; continue mixing until well blended. Spread on cooled cake.



©2008 Cherished Stitches

Holly Berries Mini Biscornu

HOLLY BERRIES MINI BISCORNU

Designed by Louise Henderson of Cherished Stitches

NeedleXpress Northern Lights Silk Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■	035	sea green
@	066	Nantucket

Mill Hill Seed Beads

○	02012	royal plum

Fabric: Two 6" x 6" pieces 36-count meadow rue linen from Lakeside Linens & Designs

Stitch count: 41H x 41W

Design size: 2 3/8" x 2 3/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Backstitch over two threads for border, using one strand 066.

Repeat design on second piece of linen; personalize, if desired.

Finishing instructions: Trim stitched pieces to 1/2" from backstitch border. Finger press seam allowance to wrong side. Use a straight pin to mark exact center of one side of stitched piece. With wrong sides together, align one corner of front piece to a marked midpoint of back piece. Using one strand 066, begin lacing pieces together through backstitched borders. After one side is complete, insert tassel and twisted-cording hanger at desired locations; pin in place. Continue lacing around piece, stitching through cording and tassel to secure. When final segment between corner and midpoint is reached, stuff firmly with fiberfill and lace opening closed. Using two strands 066, sew through the center of ornament several times, pulling floss tightly to make an indentation in center of ornament. Attach buttons to center of both front and back before ending thread and burying tails inside ornament. (Model uses two Just Another Button Company™ #3400 folk art red poindexter buttons.) Twisted-cording and tassel made using 066.

Cherished Stitches
1310 Westridge Road
Greensboro, NC 27410
e-mail: *lucystitch@earthlink.net*
Web site: *www.cherishedstchs.com*

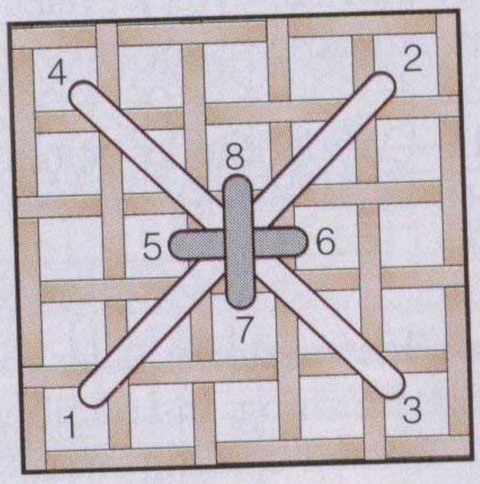
Cindy Valentine Designs

Cindy Valentine

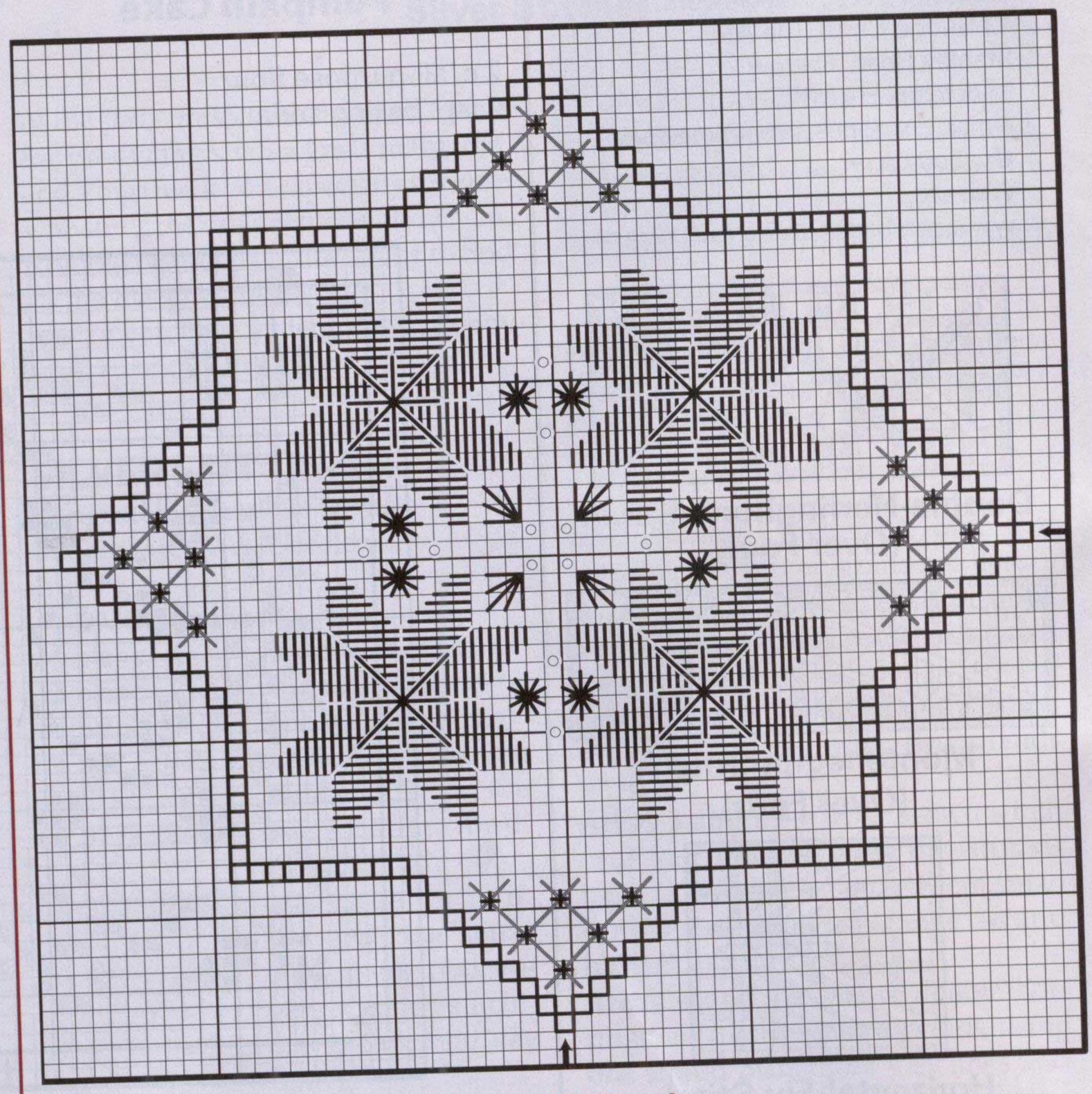
At the Valentine home, we try to get the whole family together at least once each year, but for a few Christmases lately it hasn't been possible. In 2004, David, our son-in-law, left for Iraq. In 2005, his wife and brand new baby girl welcomed him home on Christmas Eve at our home. During Christmas 2006 and 2007, our son Scott was serving in Iraq—not as a soldier, but a federal employee who volunteered. These volunteers wear a uniform and work shoulder to shoulder with the soldiers, seven days a week for twelve hours each day. We are grateful that Scott will be safely home and celebrating Christmas on U.S. soil in 2008.

Remember the many soldiers still serving in Iraq and Afghanistan who will be away from their families this Christmas. Please honor the sacrifices that they and their loved ones are making to keep this country free and safe. Next time you see soldiers (or civilians) in uniform, remember to thank them for their service.

May you enjoy the many blessings of Christmas with family, friends, and all those who enrich your lives.



Couched Cross Stitch (Over Four)



Oriental Splendor

©2008 Cindy Valentine Designs

ORIENTAL SPLENDOR

Designed by Cindy Valentine
of Cindy Valentine Designs

DMC® Anchor® Pearl Cotton #8

347 1025 salmon, vy. dk.

The Caron Collection Watercolours®

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

032 (n/a) passion

Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4

002HL gold hi lustre

Mill Hill® Petite Seed Beads

○ 40557 gold

Fabric: Two 10" x 10" pieces 22-count forest green Fine Ariosa from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 55H x 55W
Design size: 5" x 5"

Instructions: Work four-sided stitch over two threads, using one strand 347/1025.

Work vertical and horizontal satin stitch for large stars, using one strand 032.

Work ray stitch over four threads, using one strand 032.

Work modified sheaf stitch, using one strand 032.

Work couched cross stitch over four threads in points of star, using one strand 002HL where gray lines appear and one strand 347/1025 where black lines appear. Refer to stitch illustration.

Work Smyrna cross stitch over twelve threads in center of stars, using one strand 002HL.

Attach beads, using one strand of coordinating floss.

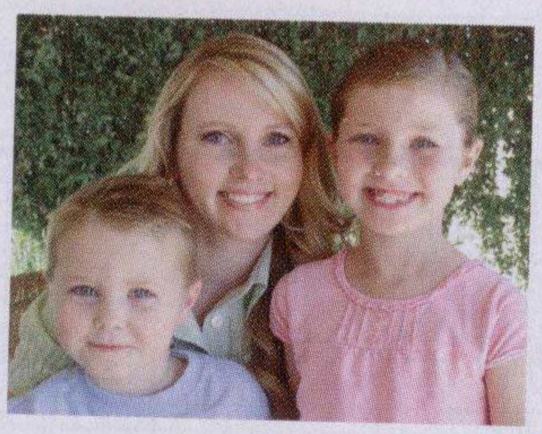
Repeat four-sided stitch border only on second piece of fabric.

Finishing instructions: Trim stitched piece to 5/8" from border. Clip and notch "peaks and valleys." Fold seam allowance to wrong side along outer border. With wrong sides together, align points and lace pieces together through border. Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Twisted cording made using DMC® 347 pearl cotton #8 and Kreinik 002HL 1/8" ribbon.

Cindy Valentine Designs
1525 Kenosha Court
Davenport, IA 52804
e-mail: *cjval52@yahoo.com*
Web site: *www.cindyvalentine.com*

Country Cottage Needleworks

Nikki Leeman



Here in the desert of southern Arizona, we don't see snow very often. But on that rare occasion when we do, it is a most exciting event. Even adults are filled with a childlike awe as we stare at the pretty flakes falling down. I was reminded of these flurries as I was designing my ornament this year. And so, even to those of us for whom a winter wonderland is more of a beautiful idea than anything else, we say, "Let it snow!"

LET IT SNOW

Designed by Nikki Leeman
of Country Cottage Needleworks

DMC® Anchor®

@ 469 267 avocado green
▲ 869 375 hazelnut brown, vy. dk.
■ 3031 905 mocha brown, vy. dk.

DMC® Light Effects Floss

☆ E168 silver

Crescent Colours Cotton Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

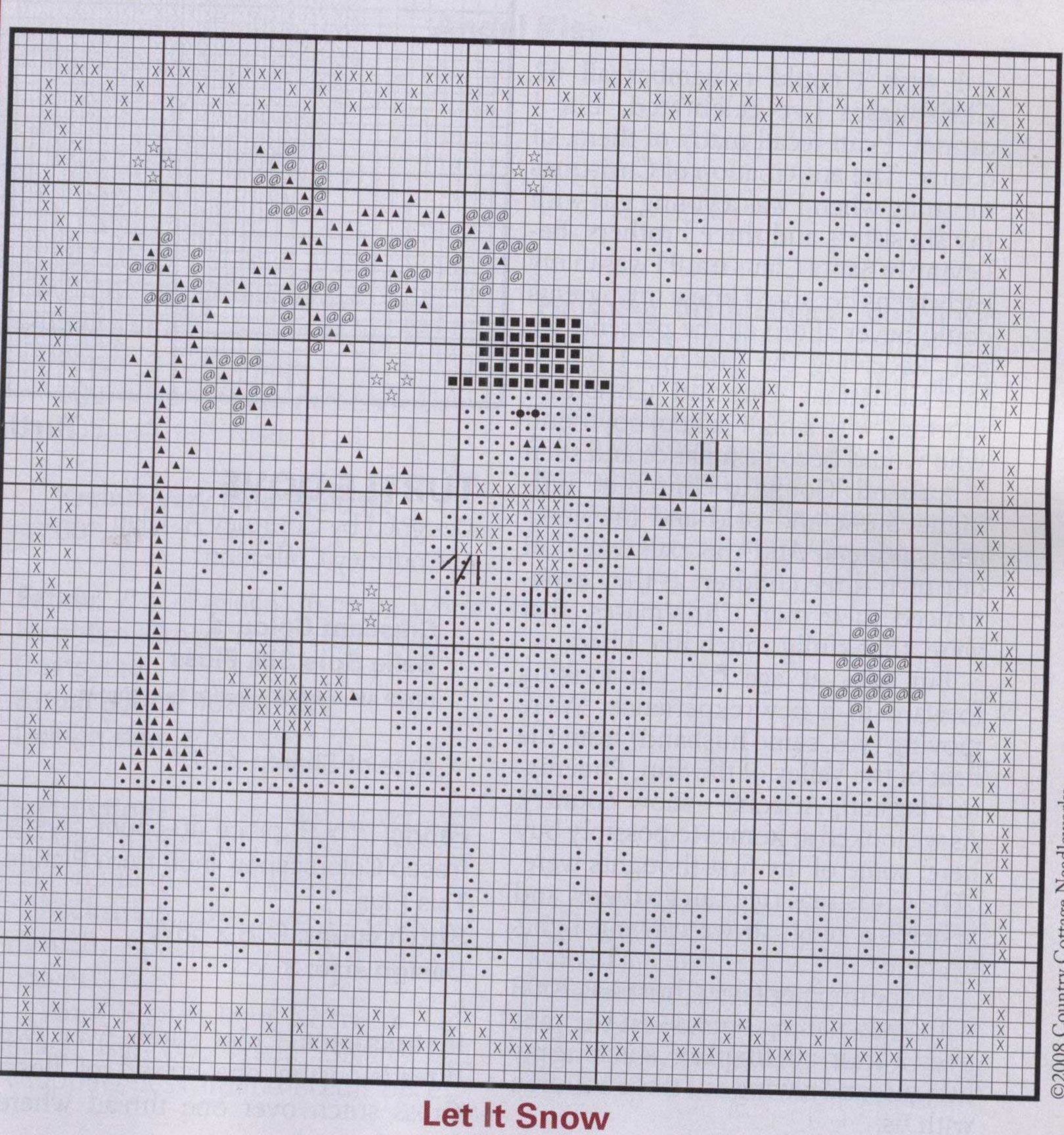
• snow (blanc)
X deep fennel (926)

Fabric: 9" x 9" piece 32-count flax Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 65H x 65W
Design size: 4 1/8" x 4 1/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Work straight stitch, using one strand of floss.

Work French knot where • appears



©2008 Country Cottage Needleworks

Let It Snow

for snowman's eyes, using one strand 3031/905 and wrapping floss around needle once.

Straight stitch instructions:
3031 905 birds' legs

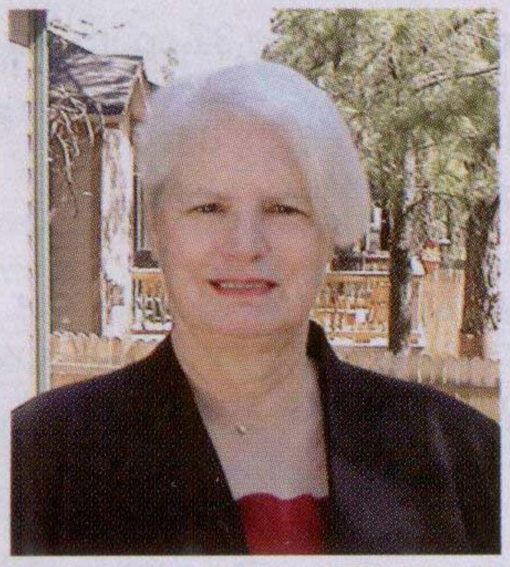
deep fennel fringe on scarf

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Twisted cording made using DMC® 926.

Country Cottage Needleworks
6073 North Raspberry Court
Tucson, AZ 85741
e-mail: *cottagestitching@msn.com*
Web site:
www.countrycottageneedleworks.com

Courtney Collection

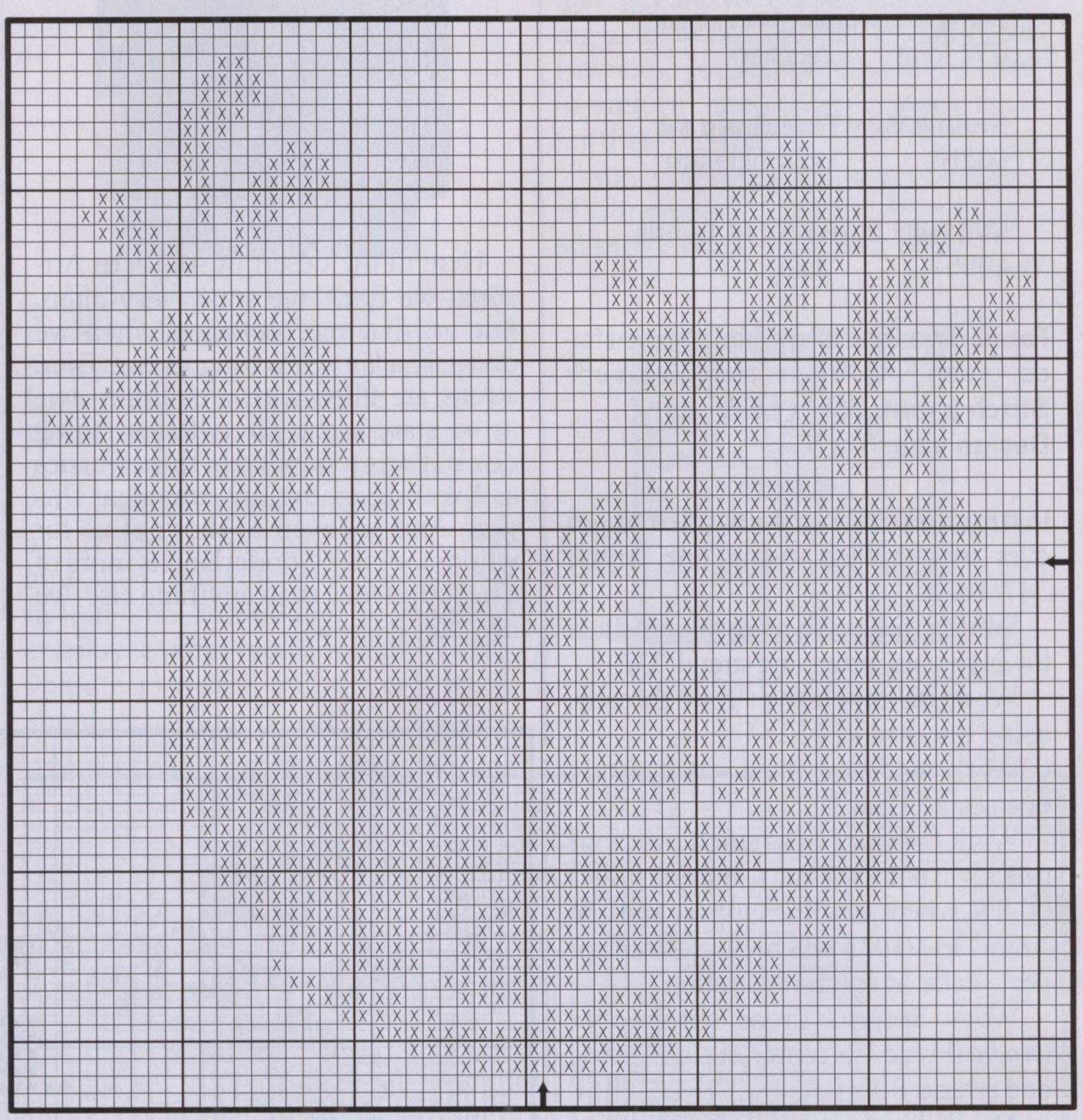
Courtney A. Glau



I wish I could remember all 62 Christmases I've celebrated, but I cannot. I can recall many of them, of course. The anticipation of Christmas morning when I was a young girl with my six sisters and three brothers. Believing in Santa Claus until I was in my early teens because I knew my parents could never afford all the presents we got. Receiving the presents I hoped for. Christmas Eve and Christmas morning with a high-school boyfriend who would become a fiancé and then a husband. Going to church at midnight. Snow and cold and fireplaces and sweaters. And the excitement of our own three children as they experienced their own Christmases, that were, thankfully, much like I had.

But now at age 63, I'm looking forward to a new experience. We're moving (yes, same husband) from the heat of the Valley of the Sun, Phoenix, to Flagstaff, Arizona—snow country. As we looked at homes to possibly buy here, some of my first thoughts were, "The Christmas tree can go there" and "There's a plug, so we can put lights up here."

I hope to experience Christmas 2008 with snow falling outside on the pine trees, a fire in our fireplace, stitching my designs, and having our three children with us.



©2008 Courtney Collection

Turtle Dove

TURTLE DOVE

Designed by Courtney A. Glau of Courtney Collection

Crescent Colours
Belle Soie Silk Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X rose of Sharon (902)

Fabric: 7" x 9" piece 40-count crystal fresco Colorscapes linen from Picture This Plus
Stitch count: 60H x 58W
Design size: 3" x 3"

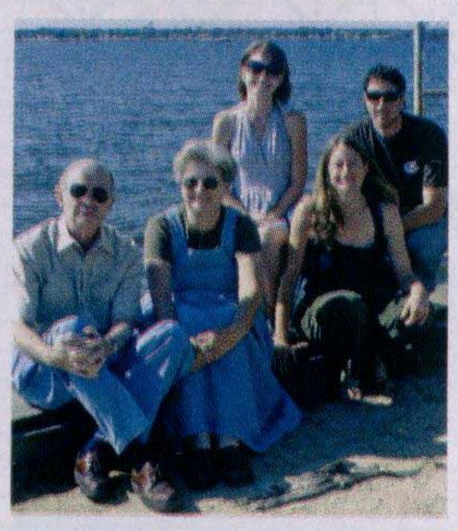
Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear in eye and beak, using one strand of floss.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Twisted cording made using 902 and DMC® E5200.

Courtney Collection
4756 South House Rock Trail
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
e-mail: *courtneycollection@yahoo.com*
Web site: *www.pbase.com/gglau/courtneycollection*

Cross-Eyed Cricket

Vicki Hastings



These cookies are truly heavenly!

Angel Kisses

1 c. butter, softened
1½ c. sugar
2 eggs, beaten
1 tsp. vanilla extract
2½ c. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. salt
2 c. flaked coconut
2 c. chopped macadamia nuts
1 c. white chocolate morsels
1 (12-oz.) bag Hersheys Chocolate Kisses®

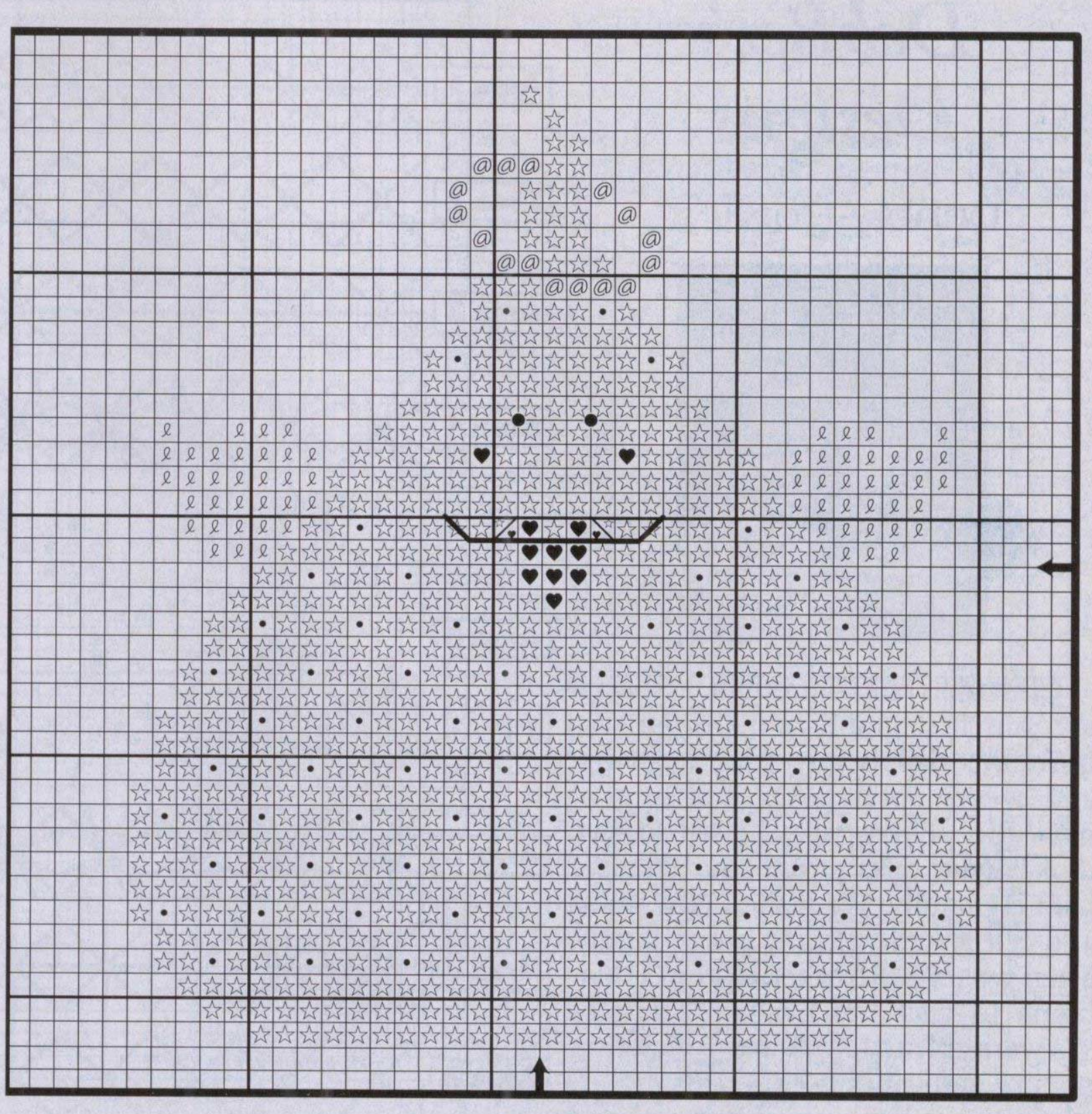
Preheat oven to 350°. Grease a cookie sheet; set aside.

In a mixing bowl, beat together butter and sugar until creamy. Add eggs and vanilla; mix well.

In a large bowl, sift together flour, baking soda, and salt. Add to butter mixture; mix well. Add coconut, nuts, and chocolate morsels; stir to combine.

Shape dough into 1" balls and place on prepared cookie sheet, leaving room for cookies to spread. Bake for 10 minutes, or until edges are lightly browned. (**Note:** Baked cookies will be light in color.) Remove to a cooling rack.

Place one unwrapped Kiss in center of each cookie.



©2008 Cross-Eyed Cricket

Angel Kiss

ANGEL KISS

Designed by Vicki Hastings
of Cross-Eyed Cricket

DMC®	Anchor®	
@ 3822	295	straw, lt.
♥ 3716	25	dusty rose, vy. lt.
ℓ 3811	1060	turquoise, vy. lt.
• blanc	2	white
333	119	blue violet, vy. dk.
335	40	rose

Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4

☆ 001	silver

Fabric: 7" x 7" piece 30-count white Northern Cross linen from Norden Crafts, Ltd.
Stitch count: 40H x 35W
Design size: 2⅔" x 2⅓"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of very fine braid.

Backstitch over two threads for mouth, space using one strand 335/40.

Work French knot where • appears, using one strand 333/119 and wrapping floss around needle once.

Finishing instructions: Model was finished by adding small silver star sequins. Refer to photo and attach sequins, using one strand blanc/2 and a French knot. Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Twisted cording made using Anchor® 253 and Kreinik #001 Very Fine Braid #4.

Cross-Eyed Cricket
14554 Amstel Court
Chesterfield, MO 63017
e-mail: *cecricket@cecricket.com*
Web site: *www.cecricket.com*

DebBee's Designs

Debbie Rowley

Christmas 2007 brought a special joy: our first grandchild! Skylar was born the day before Thanksgiving, and we celebrated the blessing of new life. Then, at Christmas, we took Skylar on a grand tour to meet his new family. We visited east Texas and celebrated with my entire family. Then we took a trip to western Oklahoma to visit my husband's family. We were able to take a five-generation picture with my husband, his grandmother, mother, our daughter, and Skylar. We finished the "Skylar '07 tour" with a visit to our church family at New Year's.

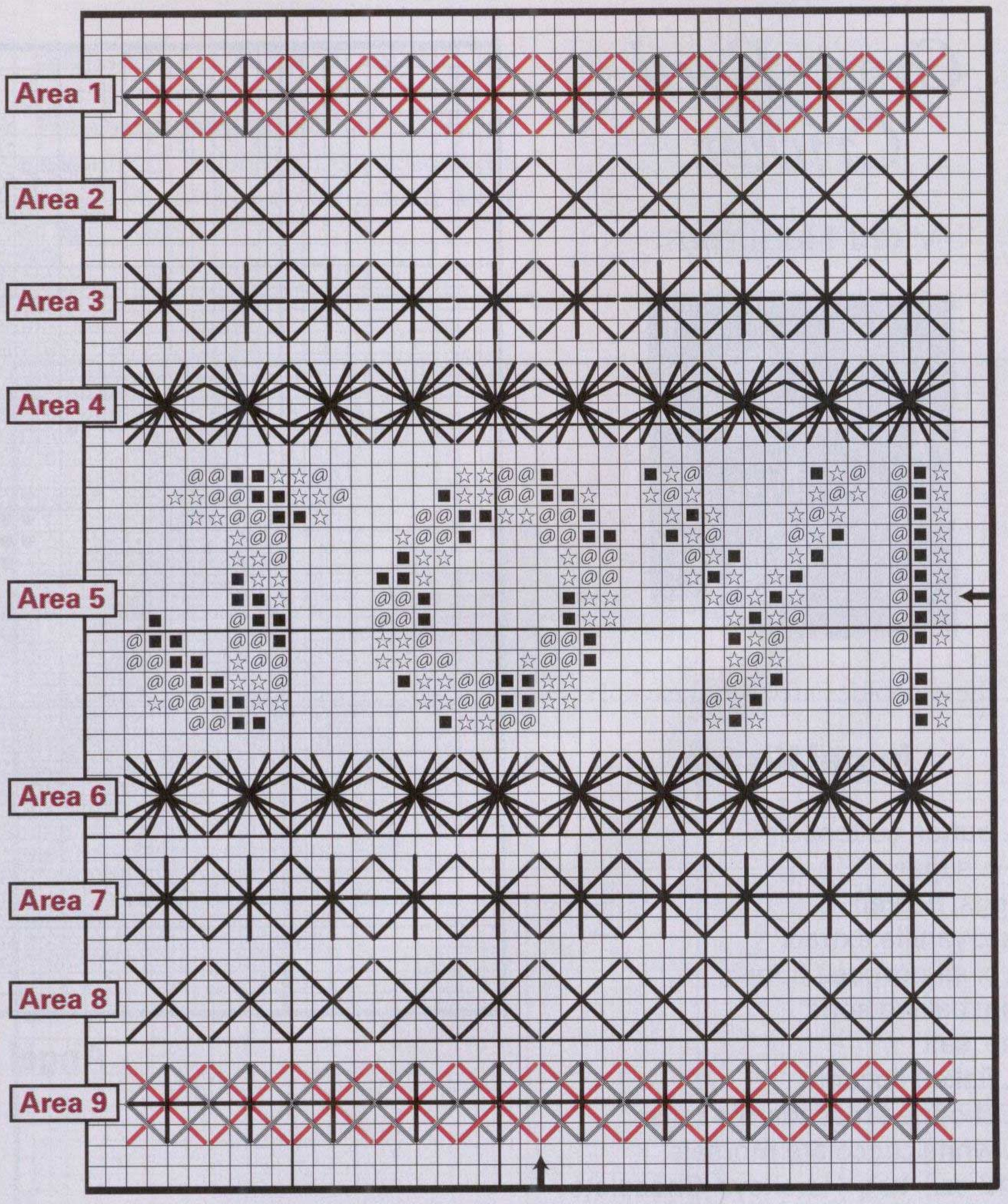
Our little grandson is a complete joy! A friend commented to me that I haven't stopped smiling since he was born, and that's just about right. His arrival so close to Christmas reminded me of the joy Mary and Joseph must have felt when Jesus was born—bringing the joy of new life to the entire world.

I had to repeat the chemo again from last year, so my cooking for the holidays was curtailed. But I did manage to make cranberry sauce. This is so easy to make, and you'll be glad to add it to your holiday celebrations. It's particularly yummy served cold on turkey sandwiches.

Cranberry Sauce

1 (16-oz.) pkg. fresh cranberries, washed
1 c. orange juice
1–1½ c. sugar (depending on taste)
Zest of one orange
½ tsp. ground cinnamon, cloves, or nutmeg (or a combination of all three)

In a medium saucepan over medium heat, combine cranberries, juice, sugar, and zest. Stirring occasionally, bring mixture to a boil. Cook until cranberries burst and juice thickens. Taste and add more sugar, if desired. Add spices; stir well. Cook one minute; remove from heat. Serve warm or cool.



©2008 DebBee's Designs

JOY BAND SAMPLER 2008

Designed by Debbie Rowley
of DebBee's Designs

	DMC®	Anchor®	
@	498	1005	red, dk.
■	699	923	green
☆	728	307	topaz

Fabric: 12" piece 16-count Christmas green/white stitchband from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 53H x 40W
Design size: 3⅓" x 2½"

Instructions:
Areas 1 and 9—Work tied Smyrna cross stitch over four squares, using two strands of floss. Work first journey (red lines), using 498/1005. Work second journey (black lines), using 699/923. Work third journey (gray lines), using 728/307.
Areas 2 and 8—Work cross stitch over four squares, using two strand 498/1005.
Areas 3 and 7—Work Smyrna cross stitch over four squares, using two strands 699/923.
Areas 4 and 6—Work triple cross stitch over four squares, using two strands 728/307.
Area 5—Cross stitch over one square, using two strands of floss.

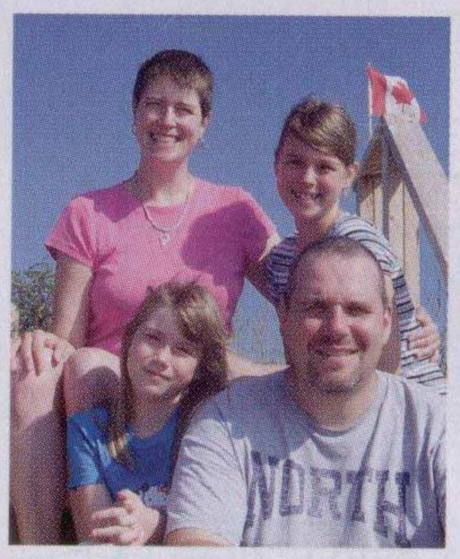
Finishing instructions: Trim stitchband to 2½" beyond stitching at bottom. Turn under ½" seam allowances; finger press along fold. Fold stitchband in half vertically to find center; pin to mark. Attach bell (Nordic Needle #5571BR) to center, using two strands of coordinating floss. Fold bottom corners to back, forming a point;

blind stitch in place and press. Trim top of stitchband to 2" from stitching. Fold ½" seam allowance to wrong side; finger press. Turn under ½" again, creating a pocket for bellpull hardware. Secure along fold with a ladder or slipstitch. Insert 12 cm-wide bellpull (Nordic Needle #7381-12) hardware. Twisted cording tassels made using DMC® 498, 699, and 728.

DebBee's Designs
27 White Oak Drive
Conway, AR 72034
e-mail: *debbie@debbeesdesigns.com*
Web site: *www.debbeesdesigns.com*

Dragon Dreams, Inc.

Jennifer Aikman-Smith

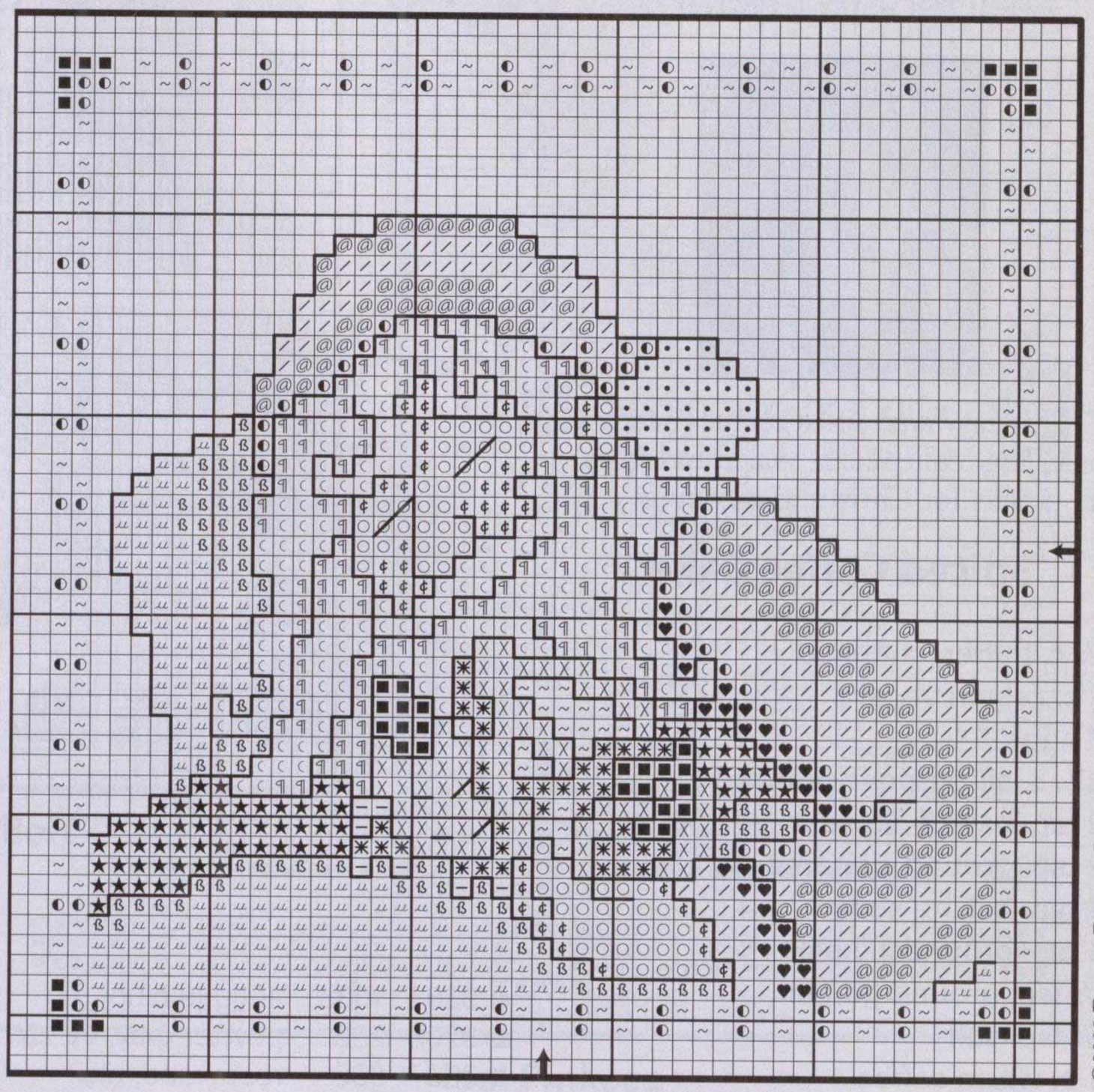


The holidays are all about traditions. We grow up with those we celebrate in our families; then when we are on our own, we have a chance to sort through those traditions and keep the ones we hold most dear. When I married Nick 19 years ago, we began to merge our traditions into the ones my two girls now consider "normal" for our family.

As I was designing my ornament this year, Erin celebrated her 13th birthday and Bethany her 9th. Suddenly, it is all too easy to imagine them grown-up and starting traditions of their own!

What makes a holiday special is not how much you spend on gifts, but how you spend time making memories with those you hold dear. I am teaching my girls that I treasure one gift made with care or chosen with thought much more than a pile of presents to rip open mindlessly. I already have more than I need.

This third ornament in the Santa's Dragon series was created for two fans who e-mailed me during 2007. They live on opposite sides of our world, but both have three children who love dragons and want ornaments of their own to keep when they are older. In this ornament, Santa and his little helper are enjoying a well-deserved rest, sleeping in after a very busy night. May you each find rest and relaxation this holiday season, as well as joy and merriment!



©2008 Dragon Dreams, Inc.

Christmas Morning

CHRISTMAS MORNING

Designed by Jennifer Aikman-Smith of Dragon Dreams, Inc.

Fabric: 7" x 7" piece 28-count light taupe Lugana® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 49H x 49W
Design size: 3½" x 3½"

DMC®	Anchor®	
(blanc	2	white
¢ 223	895	shell pink, lt.
○ 224	893	shell pink, vy. lt.
★ 322	978	baby blue, dk.
✳ 367	216	pistachio green, dk.
X 368	214	pistachio green, lt.
~ 369	1043	pistachio green, vy. lt.
¶ 415	398	pearl gray
@ 498	1005	red, dk.
/ 712	926	cream
– 744	301	yellow, pl.
ш 775	128	baby blue, vy. lt.
♥ 814	45	garnet, dk.
◐ 815	44	garnet, med.
■ 890	218	pistachio green, ul. dk.
ß 3325	129	baby blue, lt.
3371	382	black brown

Rainbow Gallery Fuzzy Stuff™

• FZ15		white

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of Fuzzy Stuff.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand 3371/382.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Twisted cording made using DMC® 815, 368, 369, and blanc.

Dragon Dreams, Inc.
Post Office Box 29079
Moncton, NB E1G 4R3
Canada
e-mail: *dragondr@nbnet.nb.ca*
Web site: *www.dragondreams.ca*

Elizabeth's Designs

Elizabeth Foster

This easy and quick recipe makes a nice, large coffee cake. Warm and spicy, it's perfect for Christmas morning!

Spiced Coffee Cake

⅔ c. butter, softened
2 c. brown sugar
2 eggs
3¼ c. all-purpose flour
2 tsp. baking powder
2 tsp. ground cinnamon
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. ground allspice
½ tsp. ground ginger
½ tsp. salt
1 c. warm coffee
1 c. raisins
1 c. chopped dates
1 c. chopped walnuts
Confectioners' sugar (optional)

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease a 13" x 9" x 2" baking pan; set aside.

In a large mixing bowl, beat together butter and brown sugar until creamy. Add eggs and beat well.

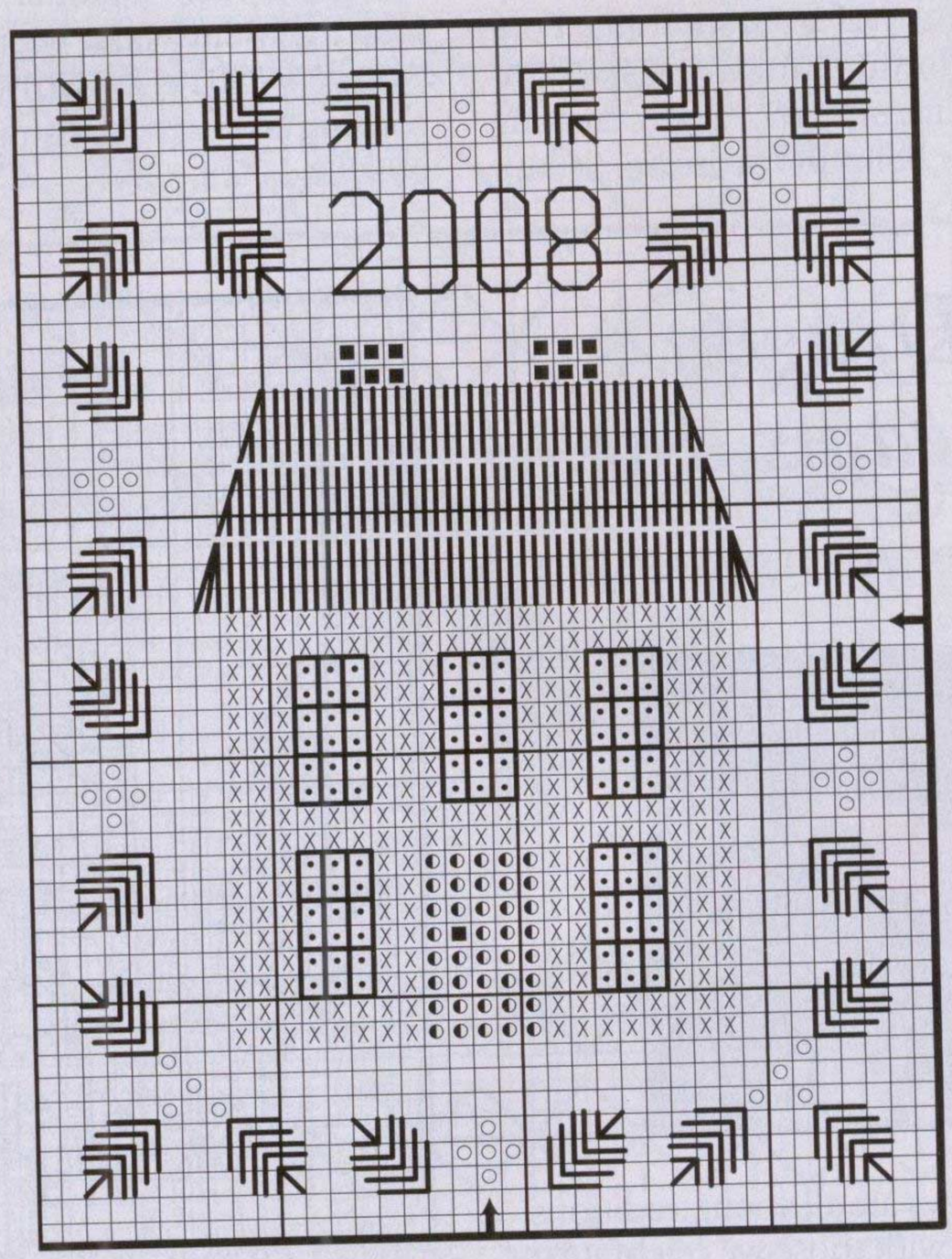
In a medium bowl, combine flour, baking power, cinnamon, baking soda, allspice, ginger, and salt. Add to creamed butter mixture, alternating with coffee. Mix well after each addition. Stir in raisins, dates, and walnuts.

Pour into prepared pan. Bake for 35 minutes.

When cake is cooled, dust with confectioners' sugar, if desired.

HOLLY HOUSE

Designed by Elizabeth Foster
of Elizabeth's Designs



©2008 Elizabeth's Designs

Holly House

DMC®	Anchor®	
• 676	891	old gold, lt.
◐ 930	1035	antique blue, dk.
■ 3799	236	pewter gray, vy. dk.
X 3857	936	rosewood, dk.
936	846	avocado green, vy. dk.

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

2219 (729)	whiskey

Mill Hill Glass Seed Beads

○ 00330	copper

Fabric: 8" x 7" piece 28-count antique gold Country French linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 46H x 33W
Design size: 3⅜" x 2⅜"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Work leaf stitch, using two strands 936/846.

Work vertical satin stitch over six threads for roof, using three strands 2219.

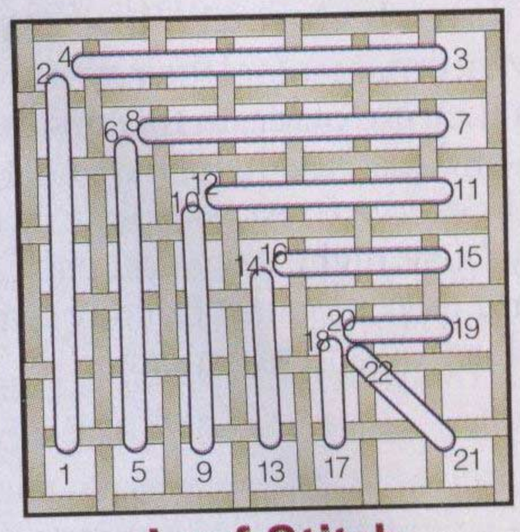
Attach beads, using one strand 3857/936 and a full cross stitch.

Backstitch instructions:

3799	236	windows
930	1035	date

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Backing was made using Weeks Dye Works™ #2219 whiskey wool. Twisted cording made using DMC® 930 pearl cotton #8.

Elizabeth's Designs
1880 Cain Road
North Collins, NY 14111
e-mail: *elizfoster@aol.com*
Web site: *www.elizabeth'sdesigns.com*



Leaf Stitch

Erica Michaels Designs

Linda Stolz

I grew up in a small town in "landlocked" south-central Kansas. We didn't always get a lot of snow each winter, but it was definitely always cold! One year, instead of the usual Christmas with gifts under the tree on Christmas morning, we all took a vacation to Florida. It was the first time on an airplane and to the Atlantic Ocean for my two sisters and me. Needless to say, we had a wonderful, warm, and sunny time and made lots of memories.

This is a favorite cookie recipe in our family—moist with a nice, tangy flavor. There always seems to be a lot of baking to do, and this cookie is so easy.

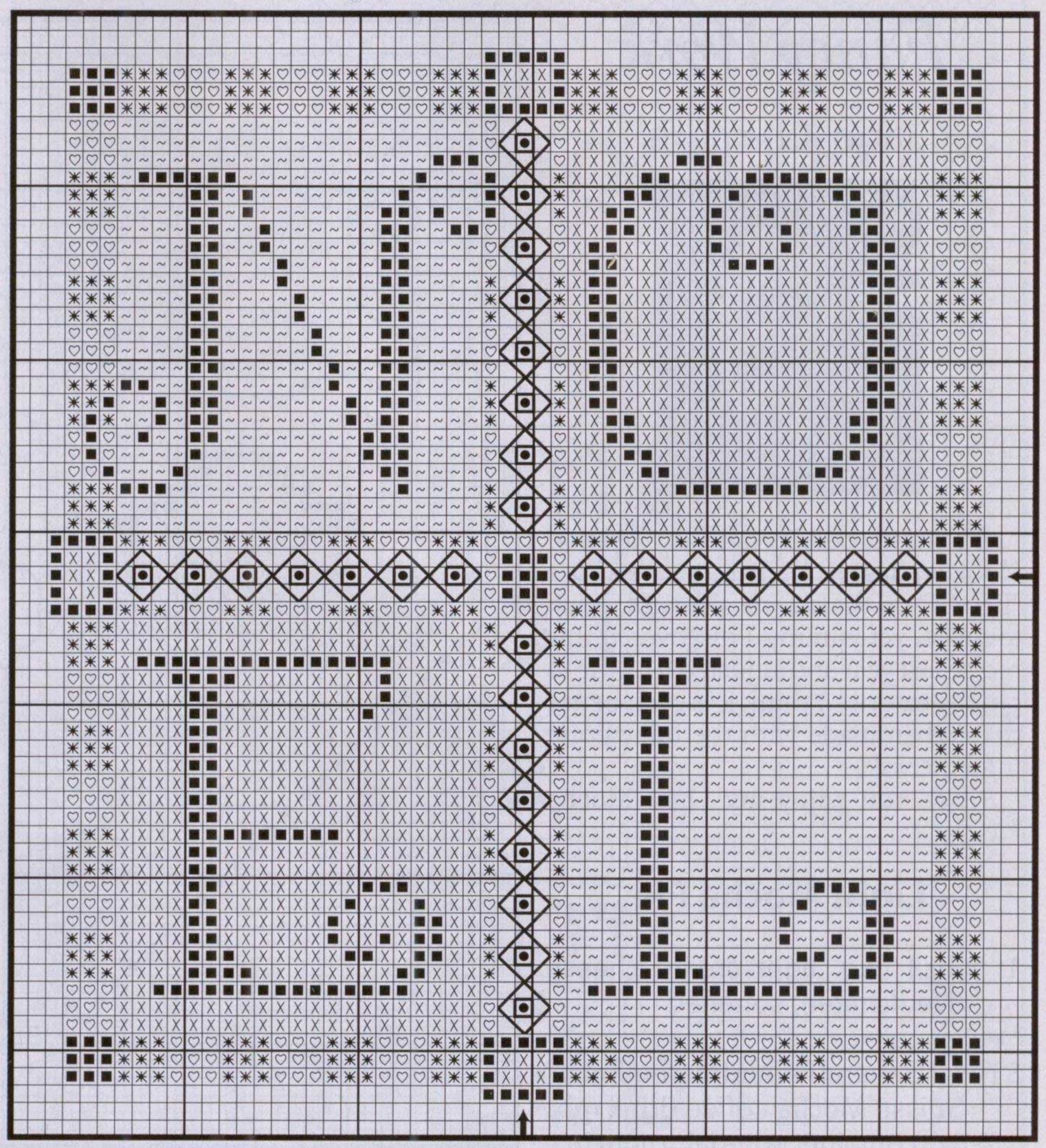
Lemon Whippersnappers

1 (18.25-oz.) pkg. lemon cake mix
2 c. frozen nondairy whipped topping, thawed
1 egg
3/4 c. confectioners' sugar

Preheat oven to 350°.

In a large mixing bowl, combine cake mix, whipped topping, and egg; mix well. Shape into 1" balls and roll in confectioners' sugar. Place on an ungreased cookie sheet.

Bake for 10–12 minutes.



©2008 Erica Michaels Designs

NOEL PINKEEP

Designed by Linda Stolz
of Erica Michaels Designs

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■ 0120 (890) pine
X 0180 (989) spring grass

Crescent Colours Cotton Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

✳ blooming crocus (340)
♡ cerise (3608)
~ frozen margarita (772)

Mill Hill Petite Seed Beads

● 42031 citron

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count cornsilk linen from Lakeside Linens & Designs
Stitch count: 61H x 55W
Design size: 3 7/8" x 3 1/2"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

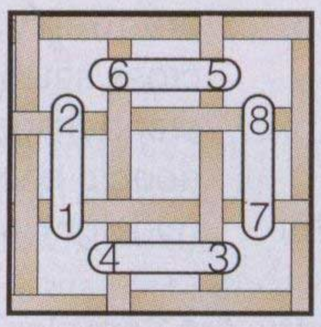
Work four-sided stitch over two threads to create frame for each bead, using two strands of cerise.

Work straight stitch for diamond shapes in borders, using one strand 0120.

Attach beads, using one strand 0180 and a full cross stitch.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Twisted cording made using DMC® 3805. Hanger made using purchased coordinating 1/4" wide ribbon. Twenty green pearl-head dressmaker pins were inserted at even intervals through twisted-cording trim around ornament.

Erica Michaels Designs
344 Wells Court
Clarksville, TN 37043
e-mail: *emstitch@charter.net*
Web site: *www.ericamichaels.com*



Four-Sided Stitch

Fancy Work

Jane Timmers

During the holidays and all year long, I look for dessert recipes that are a little "lighter" on the calorie side and quick to make, yet yummy. I discovered this recipe last year and adjusted it a little to cut the calories.I think it is even better than when made with the full calorie ingredients!

Hope you enjoy my Light Mocha Pie.

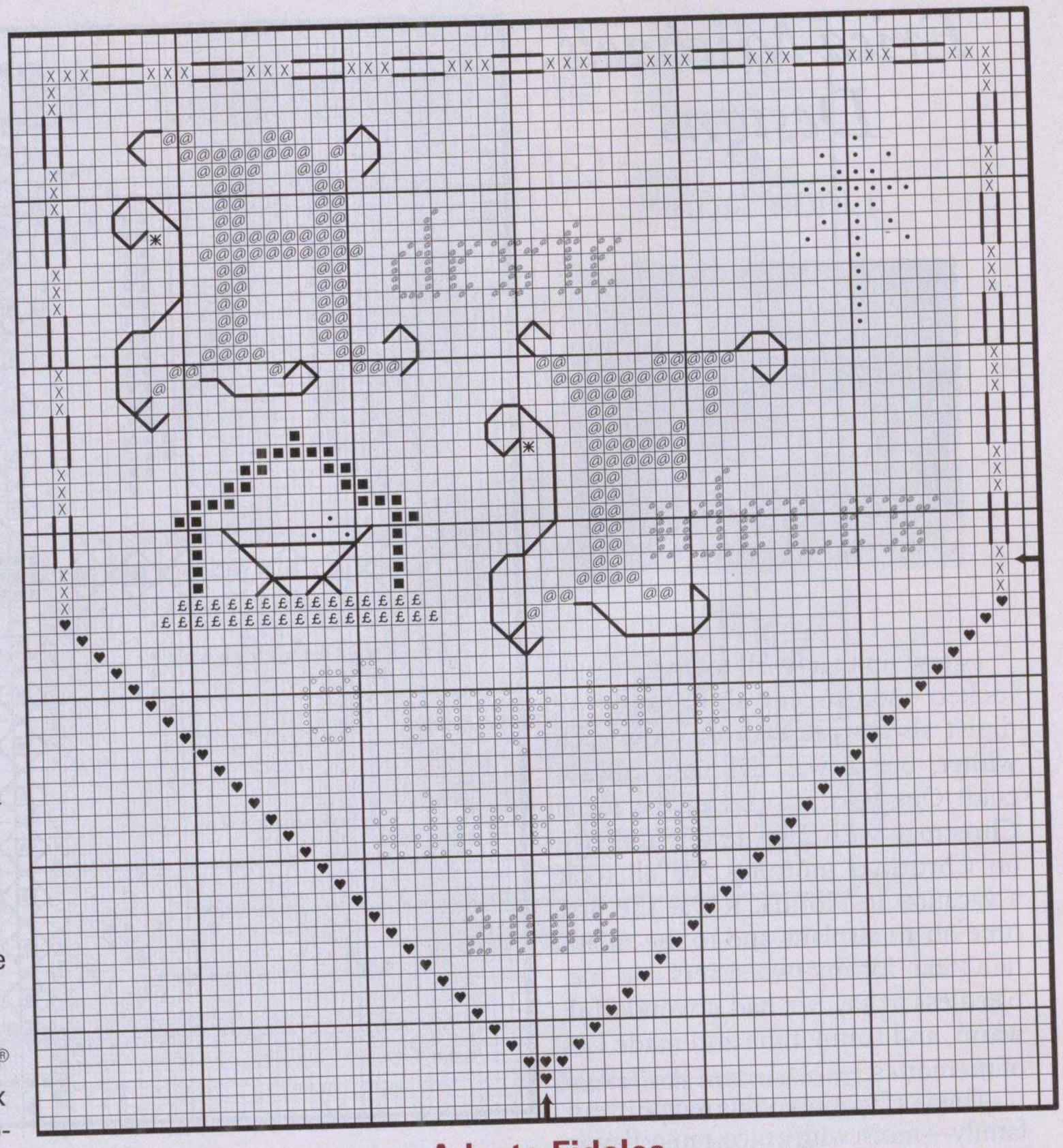
Light Mocha Pie

1 (8-oz.) pkg. light cream cheese (Neufchâtel), softened
3/4 c. sugar
3 Tbsp. General Foods International® Suisse Mocha coffee drink mix
1 (8-oz.) container non-dairy light frozen whipped topping, thawed
1 graham cracker pie shell
Chocolate shaving, optional

In a mixing bowl, beat together cream cheese and sugar until creamy. Add coffee drink mix, and beat well. Fold in whipped topping. Pour mixture into pie shell, smoothing top. Add chocolate shavings, if desired. Freeze pie for 2 hours. Remove from freezer and allow to thaw slightly before serving.

ADESTE FIDELES

Designed by Jane Timmers of Fancy Work



Adeste Fideles

Gloriana Silk Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

♥	062 (815)	cranberry
✳	062 (815)	cranberry (Smyrna cross stitch over two)
X	062 (815)	cranberry (alternating double backstitch)
@	093 (825)	midnight
£	0190 (937)	forest glade
•	0420 (3822)	gold leaf

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

■	1110 (3781)	sable
○	829	906 golden olive, vy. dk.

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count vintage light Examplar linen from Lakeside Linens & Designs
Stitch count: 62H x 57W
Design size: 3 7/8" x 3 5/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear, using one strand of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work alternating double backstitch over two threads for upper and side portions of border, using one strand 062.

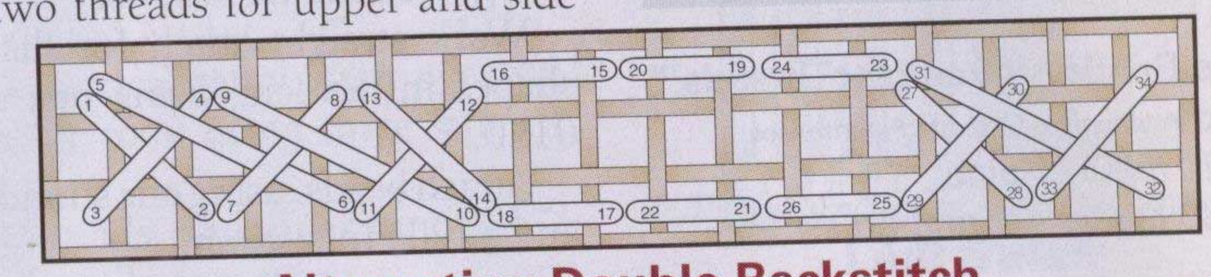
Work Smyrna cross stitch over two threads, using one strand 062.

Backstitch instructions:

062	tendrils from letters
1110	manger

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Twisted cording and tassel made using DMC® 815.

Fancy Work
4233 Glenforest Way
Roswell, GA 30075
e-mail: *fancywork@bellsouth.net*
Web site: *www.fancywork.net*



Alternating Double Backstitch

©2008 Fancy Work

Forget-Me-Nots in Stitches

Lauren Sauer

For several years in a row, many years ago, I taught in Winston-Salem at a popular needlework event. I took time during each visit to wander around Old Salem, learning about this early Moravian settlement and the customs the Moravians brought with them from Bohemia, especially the ones used to celebrate Christmas. One I didn't know about was the use of decorated wooden Christmas pyramids instead of real, cut fir trees. The ones I saw were enchanting, and I had to have one of my own.

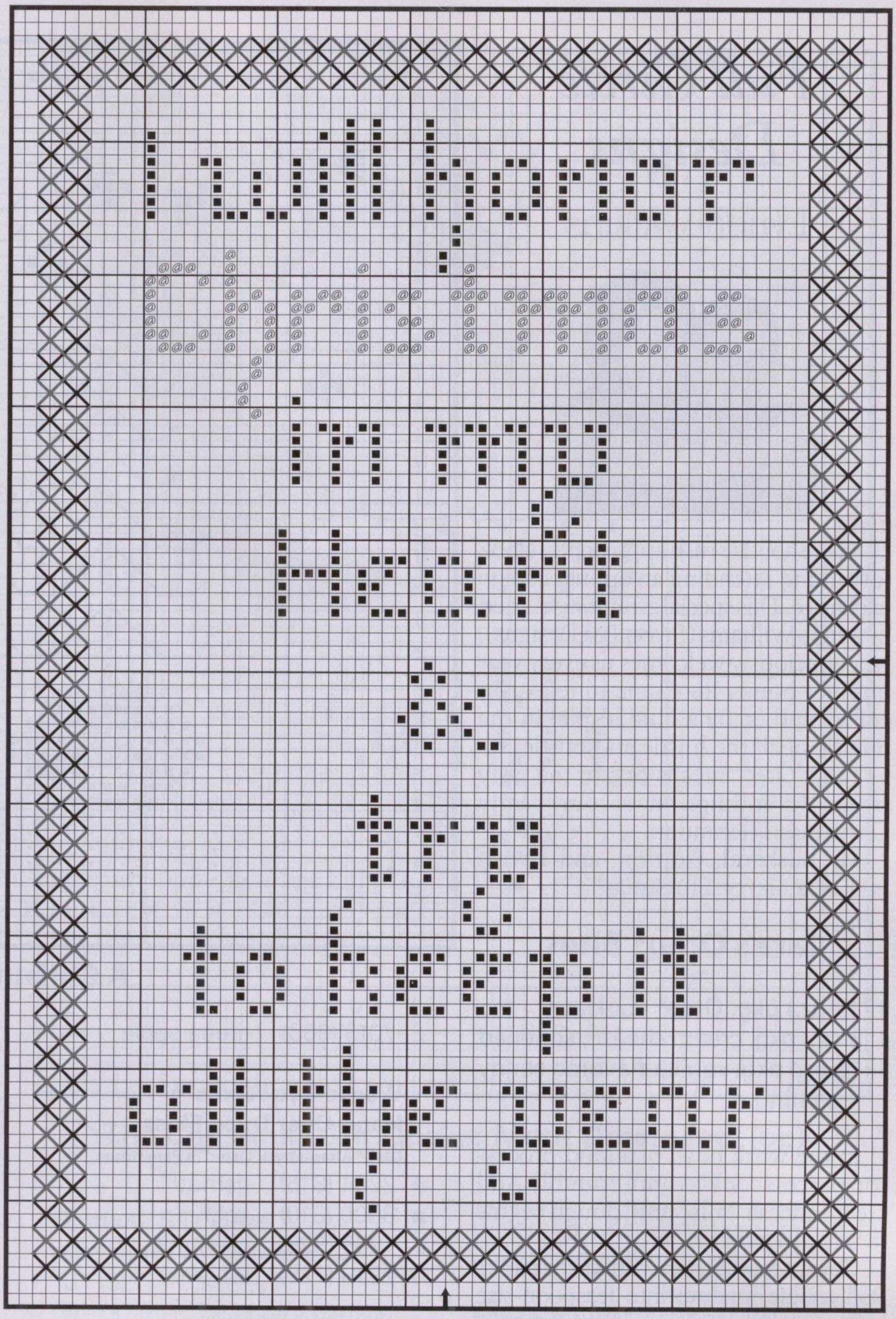
A rough sketch was made for a clever friend, and my Christmas pyramid took shape. It is about three feet tall, stands on four "feet," and has three square shelves.

At Christmastime the four side supports are wrapped in colorful ribbons; brass pinecone-shaped candle clips holding red candles are added, as is a shiny brass star at the very tip-top.

On the bottom shelf, always, is a forest of miniature trees of all shapes and sizes. The trees surround a collector's plate of one of Sulamith Wulfing's enchanting Christmas scenes, illuminated from behind by a small, star-shaped lamp lit day and night. Folded paper stars are scattered among the trees.

The focus of the middle shelf, also surrounded by tiny trees, is a "crib" scene comprised of Playmobil toys: a roof-protected crib surrounded by tiny rabbits and fawns and deer. Several treasured cast-lead animals have been added over the years. And at Christmas, an extremely tiny Baby Jesus, resting inside a half walnut shell, is safely tucked inside the crib.

On the top shelf rests a treasured and very sweet green-robed ceramic angel my daughter made for me one Christmas—an angel always watching over us.



©2008 Forget-Me-Nots in Stitches

Honor Christmas

HONOR CHRISTMAS

Designed by Lauren Sauer
of Forget-Me-Nots in Stitches

Olde Willow Stitchery Silk Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

@	8 (349)	red
■	1 (935)	green

Fabric: 9" x 6" piece 40-count ivory Ricamo linen from Norden Crafts, Ltd.
Stitch count: 94H x 62W
Design size: 4 3/4" x 3 1/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work double herringbone stitch over eight threads for border, using one strand 1 for first journey (black lines) and one strand 8 for second journey (gray lines). Note compensating stitches at corners.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108.

Forget-Me-Nots in Stitches
Post Office Box 606077
Cleveland, OH 44106
e-mail: *laurenatfmnis@earthlink.net*
Web site:
www.forgetmenotsinstitches.com

Full Circle Designs

Lynda Watkins

As the holiday rush approaches, I look forward to attending an annual cookie exchange. This special group was started by Angie Williams (Sweet Pea Designs), who graciously welcomes us every year into her home. It's a time to relax, sip coffee, and enjoy a little respite in the middle of all the hustle and bustle.

Tara's Oreo Bites is one of the tasty treats we indulge in at our yearly Christmas celebration.

My husband, Gordon, and I wish you all a Merry Christmas!

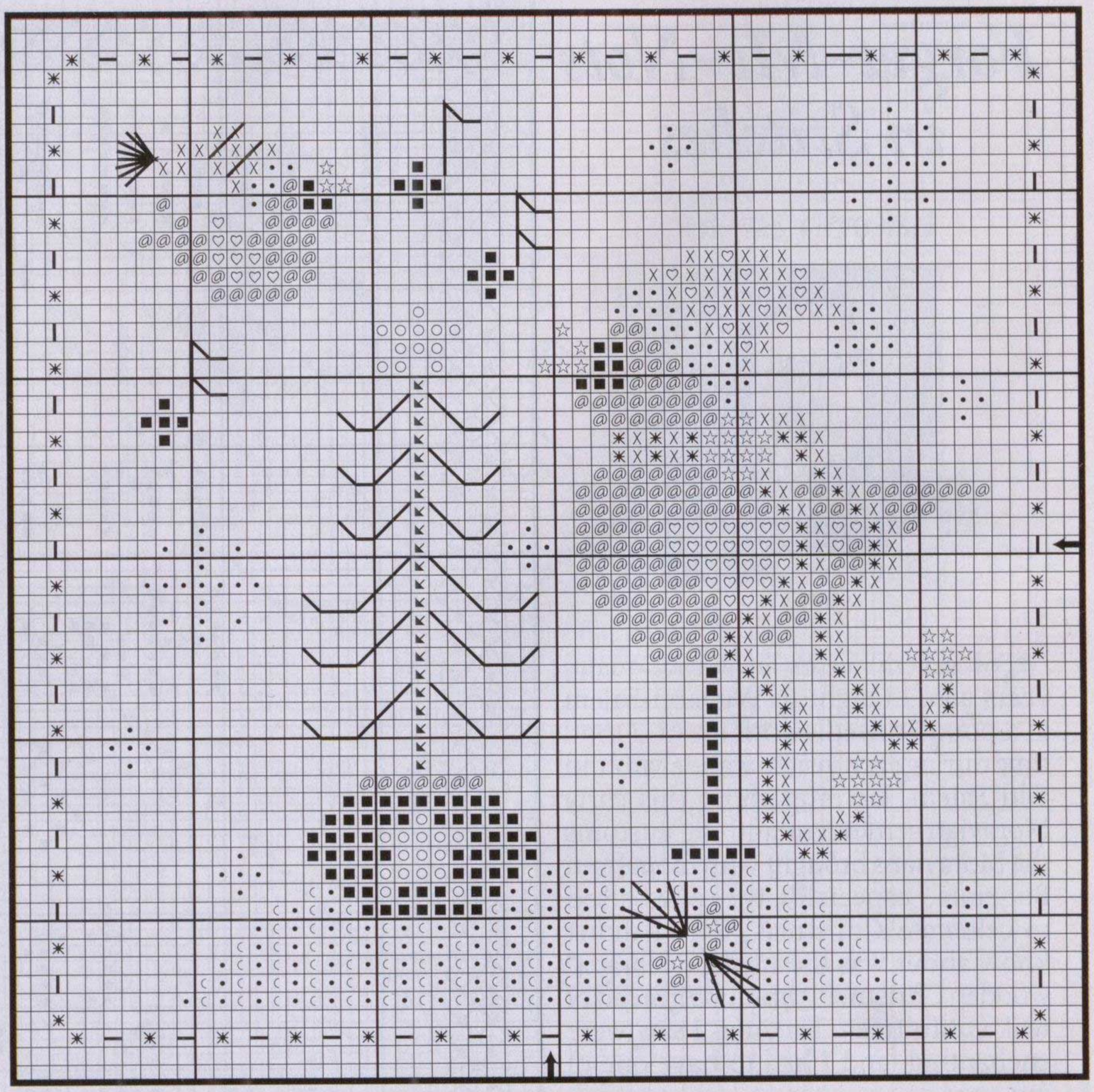
Tara's Oreo® Bites

1 (18-oz.) pkg. Oreo® cookies
1 (8-oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened
1 (16-oz.) pkg. vanilla-flavored candy coating

In the work bowl of a food processor, process cookies until crumbly. Add cream cheese. Pulse until dough begins to stick together.

Cover a cookie sheet with waxed paper. Roll cookie mixture into teaspoon-size balls; place on prepared cookie sheet.

Following manufacturer's directions, melt candy coating; set aside. Dip each ball into melted chocolate and return to cookie sheet and allow to set.



©2008 Full Circle Designs

A CHRISTMAS SONG

Designed by Lynda Watkins
of Full Circle Designs

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

X	0110 (319)	dried thyme
♡	0311 (326)	holly berry
•	1140 (3865)	oatmeal

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

≠	7003 (320)	shutter green
(	7013 (368)	green apple

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

@	2264 (815)	garnet
■	3900 (310)	kohl
◣	1269 (898)	chestnut
☆	2219 (729)	whiskey

Rainbow Gallery Treasure Petite Braid™

○	PB03	gold

Fabric: 9" x 9" piece 32-count days gone by hand-dyed Belfast® linen from Silkweaver (Fabric courtesy of Zweigart®)
Stitch count: 55H x 55W
Design size: 3½" x 3½"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of braid.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work straight stitch, using one strand of floss.

Work running stitch over two threads for border, using one strand 3900.

Backstitch instructions:

0110	tree branches
3900	music notes

Straight-stitch instructions:

0110	holly leaves on hill
0311	stripes on small bird's hat
2219	pom pom on small bird's hat

Finishing instructions: Trim linen to ½" from stitched border. Finger press ¼" seam allowance to wrong side and baste seam allowance in place. Blind stitch to pillow made from Weeks Dye Works™ #1277 collards wool. Pillow-ornament finishing instructions are on page 108. If desired, attach one Hill Creek Designs #200 small burgundy star button in each corner before attaching to pillow. Bow and hanger were made using Rainbow Gallery #BG3 natural flax.

Full Circle Designs
1313 Jamestown Drive
Tahlequah, OK 74464
e-mail: *email@fullcirclestitches.com*
Web site: *www.fullcirclestitches.com*

Gentle Pursuit Designs

Jaenn (Cissy) Bailey Smith

This photo of my granddaughter, Aubrey Blair Lachesky, and me (Mimi) was taken last Christmas when she was just three months old. Isn't she fabulous? My grandson Connor is nearly four now and is a delight. Before he came to see me yesterday, he insisted that his mom brush his hair so it stood up in several directions and then spray it so he could look like "Shark Boy." Connor plans to show me the movie the next time I visit, and I'm certainly curious about Shark Boy's hairdo. Aubrey is seven months old, and she practices talking constantly. She is fascinated with her dog, Tanner, and my Cora. Aubrey uses a "growling" language with them and will probably be trying to ride them in a few more months. The only word she knows so far is "Da-Da," but that doesn't seem to slow her down.

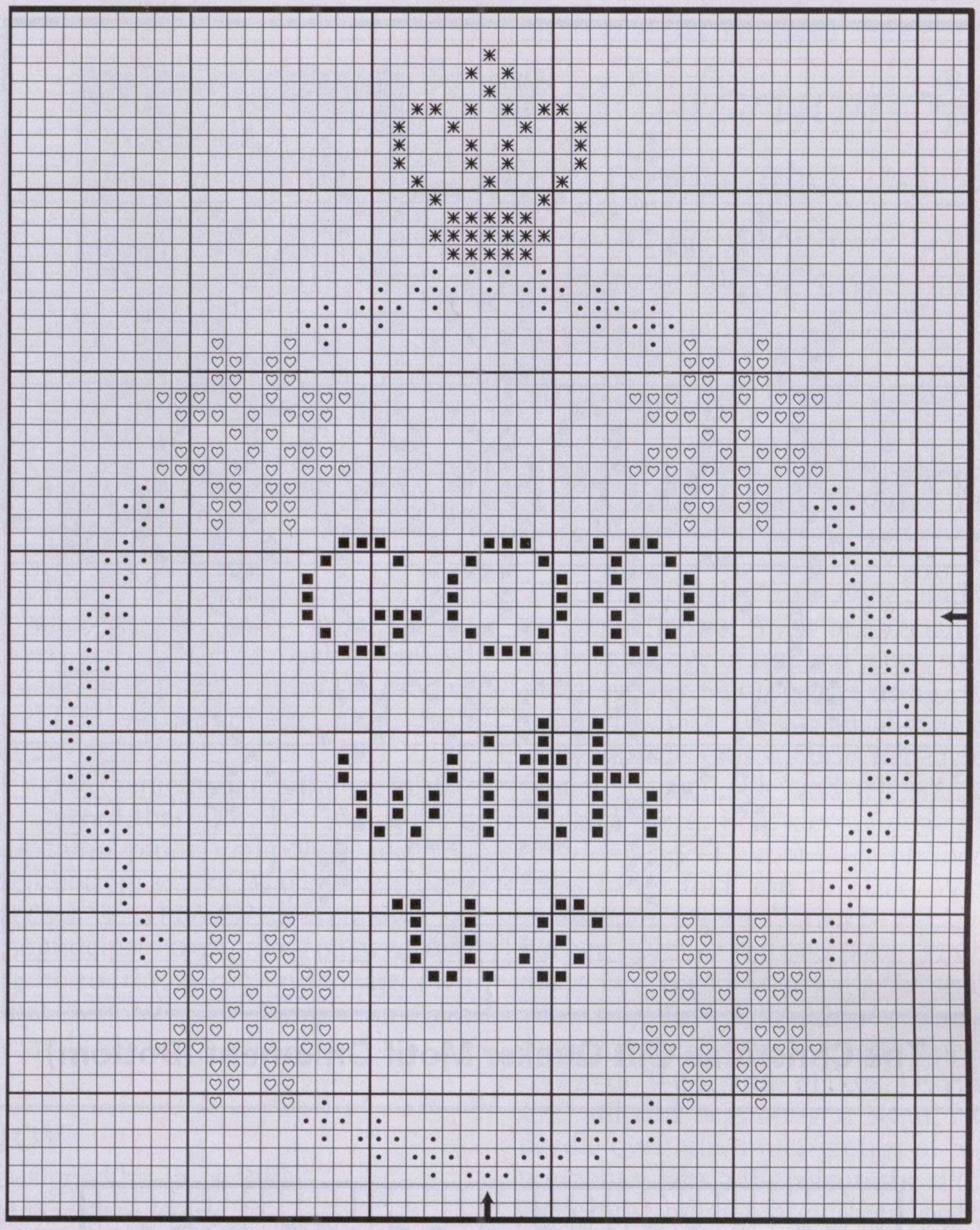
I used traditional Quaker motifs for my ornament and inserted words that fit the spiritual aspect of Christmas. You can stitch the ornament in your own favorite color scheme instead of the Quaker browns and raspberry shades I used. You may want to add family initials around the outside of the larger motif and a date at the bottom since you have room.

If you wish, this ornament can also be turned into sewing accessories. Make another set of circles in silk to form a back side for the large circle, and join the front and back across the top edge. Add a glass button on the bottom with ribbon or a buttonhole loop, and you've turned it into a needlebook. The smaller design can be a scissors fob or a pinwheel.

May your heart be warmed with joy and hope as you celebrate every aspect of Christmas.

THE CHRISTMAS GIFT QUAKER MOTIF ORNAMENT

Designed by Jaenn (Cissy) Bailey Smith of Gentle Pursuit Designs



©2008 Gentle Pursuit Designs

The Christmas Gift Quaker Motif Ornament (Top)

Gloriana Silk Floss

	DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses	
•	131 (521)	sable
♡	091 (3716)	raspberry parfait

Needlepoint Inc. Silk Floss

	DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses	
■	582 (3021)	doeskin brown, med. dk
✳	954 (830)	burnt umber, lt.

Fabric: 9" x 9" piece 40-count vintage bittersweet linen from Lakeside Linens & Designs

Stitch count:
Top: 63H x 49W
Bottom: 51H x 51H

Design size:
Top: 3¼" x 2½"
Bottom: 1⅓" x 1⅓"

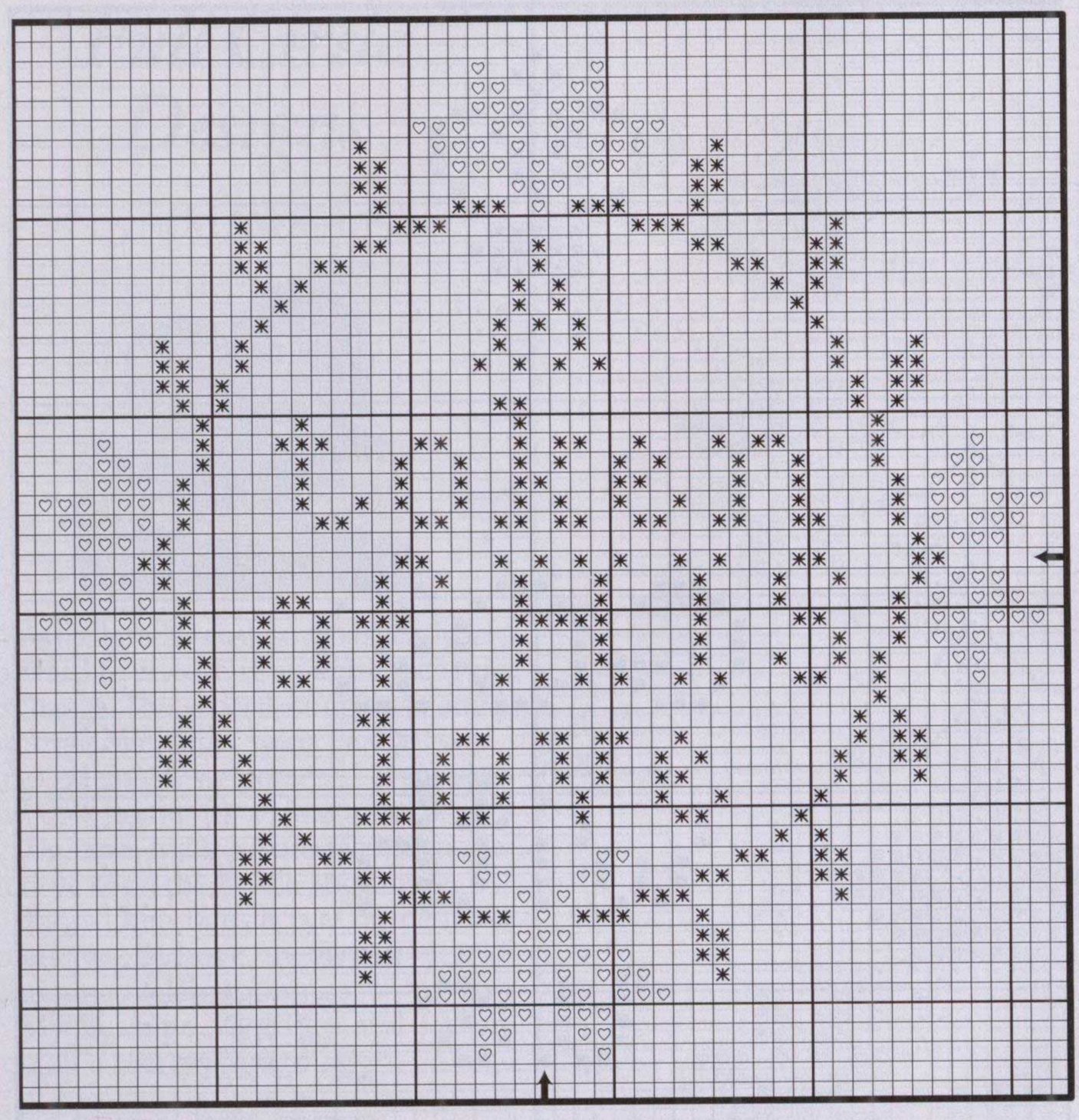
Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads for Chart One (Top), using one strand of floss. Cross stitch over one thread for Chart Two (Bottom), using one strand of floss.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on this page. Model finished with one yard of Gloriana Threads Vintage silk 12mm ribbon in Cissy's Shaker Brown. Before joining front and back of ornaments, insert a length of ribbon between layers to connect top and bottom parts of ornament together. Sew through ribbon when joining front and back of ornament together to secure ribbon in place. Hanger and bows made using remainder of ribbon.

Gentle Pursuit Designs
745 Petersburg Drive
Fort Mill, SC 29708
e-mail: *jbsmith224@comporium.net*

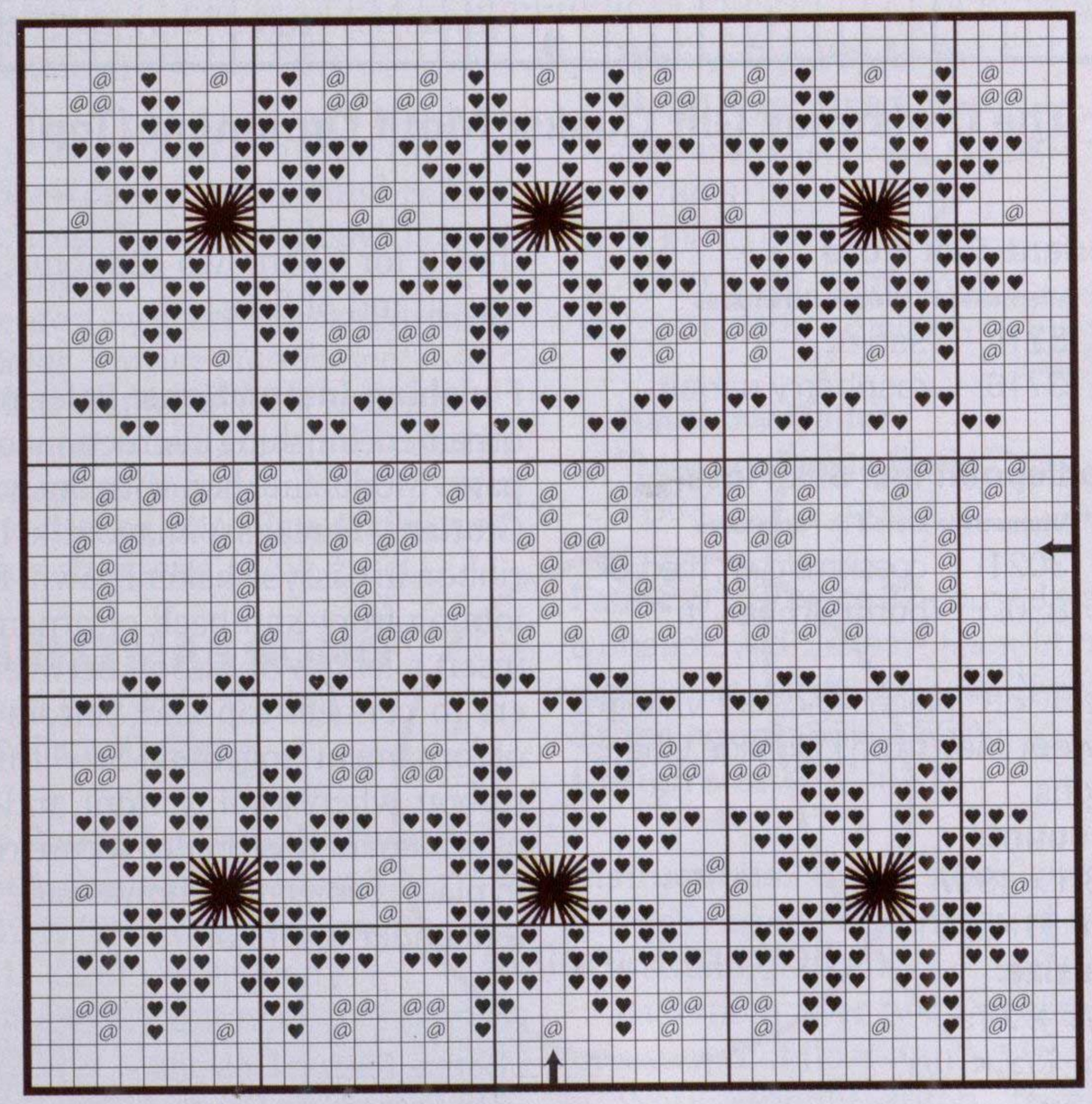
Top Template

Bottom Template



©2008 Gentle Pursuit Designs

The Christmas Gift Quaker Motif Ornament (Bottom)



©2008 Glory Bee

Merry 2008

Glory Bee

Nancy Boyarsky

For the past several years, my husband, Al, and I have traveled during the month of December. We leave just as the weather gets nasty and the stress of the holidays is starting to show. Lately, we have gone scuba diving in the Caribbean. We always get home just in time for my birthday, December 23, and Christmas. Wherever you are in the world, we wish you a Merry Christmas!

Al's Margaritas

Lime wedge
Coarse salt
1 c. ice
2 oz. tequila
1 oz. Cointreau
2 oz. lime juice or margarita mix
Lime and orange slices (optional)

Moisten the rim of a margarita glass by rubbing lime wedge along the rim; dip rim in salt.

Using a shaker, combine remaining ingredients. Shake well and pour into prepared glass. Garnish with slices of lime and orange, if desired.

Olé!

MERRY 2008

Designed by Nancy Boyarsky of Glory Bee

	DMC®	Anchor®	
♥	816	43	garnet
@	890	218	pistachio green, ul. dk.
	725	305	topaz, med. lt.

Fabric: 9" x 9" piece 28-count new khaki Lugana® from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 42H x 41W
Design size: 3" x 3"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Work Rhodes stitch over six threads, using two strands 725/305.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Trim and hanger made using purchased cording.

Glory Bee
49 Pine Road
Ashby, MA 01431
e-mail: *nancy@glorybeestitch.com*
Web site: *www.glorybeestitch.com*

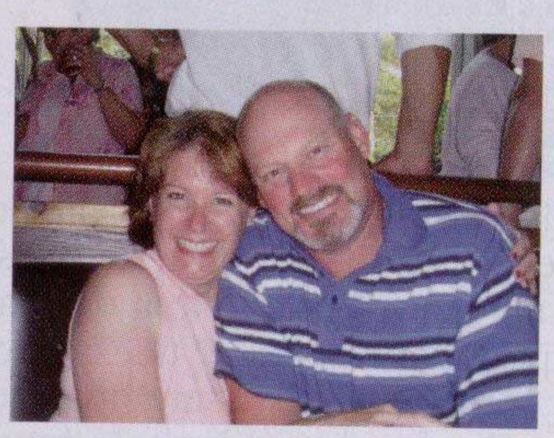
Violarium

* French cross stitch charts, kits and magazines
* Stitcher's Tray chart by Les grilles de Maryse
* Friendly customer service

www.violarium.com

Hands to Work

Tracy Riffle



Christmas is such an amazing holiday. I drink in the smells, sounds, and sights each year. Immediately following Halloween, I find myself longing to hear jingling bells. Anticipation is the best part of the holidays, but it was a lesson I learned the hard way.

I have always been impatient and impulsive. My mother did her shopping early and would wrap the presents as soon as she got them home. I always knew there were wrapped presents in the house, but I never looked for them—until I was about twelve. I stumbled upon the mother lode of gifts from Mom and Dad.

Now, this was the time in my life when I was no longer a little girl but I wasn't quite grown up, either. I still wanted toys, but I wanted lip gloss and eye shadow as well. The boxes in my mother's closet were so beautiful. There was a huge box, and I could tell from the bulging lid that it had to be the most amazing present ever. Every day I would sneak into my mother's room to look. Eventually, I had to pull the box off the shelf and shake it. Nothing. Not a sound. Oh, I knew this was going to be such an awesome gift. I could hardly sleep just thinking about it!

When I could take the pressure no more, I waited until everyone was out of the house, pulled my most awesome gift ever down from the stack, carefully ran my finger under the tape, and peeked into the corner of the box. Oh, the thrill! Oh, the excitement! Oh, the disappointment. It was a robe. A *robe*?! What self-respecting twelve-year-old wants a robe? I rewrapped the present and sadly placed it back on the shelf. Bummer.

I don't remember anything else that I received that year. I'm sure I got a supercool purse, nail polish, and new bell bottom slacks. Maybe even a toy or two. Who knows? All I remember is the anticipation of finding out what was in the enormous box and the letdown after the sneak peek. I have never again secretly opened a package.

JOY

Designed by Tracy Riffle
of Hands to Work

Crescent Colours
Belle Soie Silk Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

@ red fox (3328)
■ noir (3799)
X creme de menthe (502)
~ attic tea (3012)
♥ magpie (3781)
☆ cinnamon stick (680)

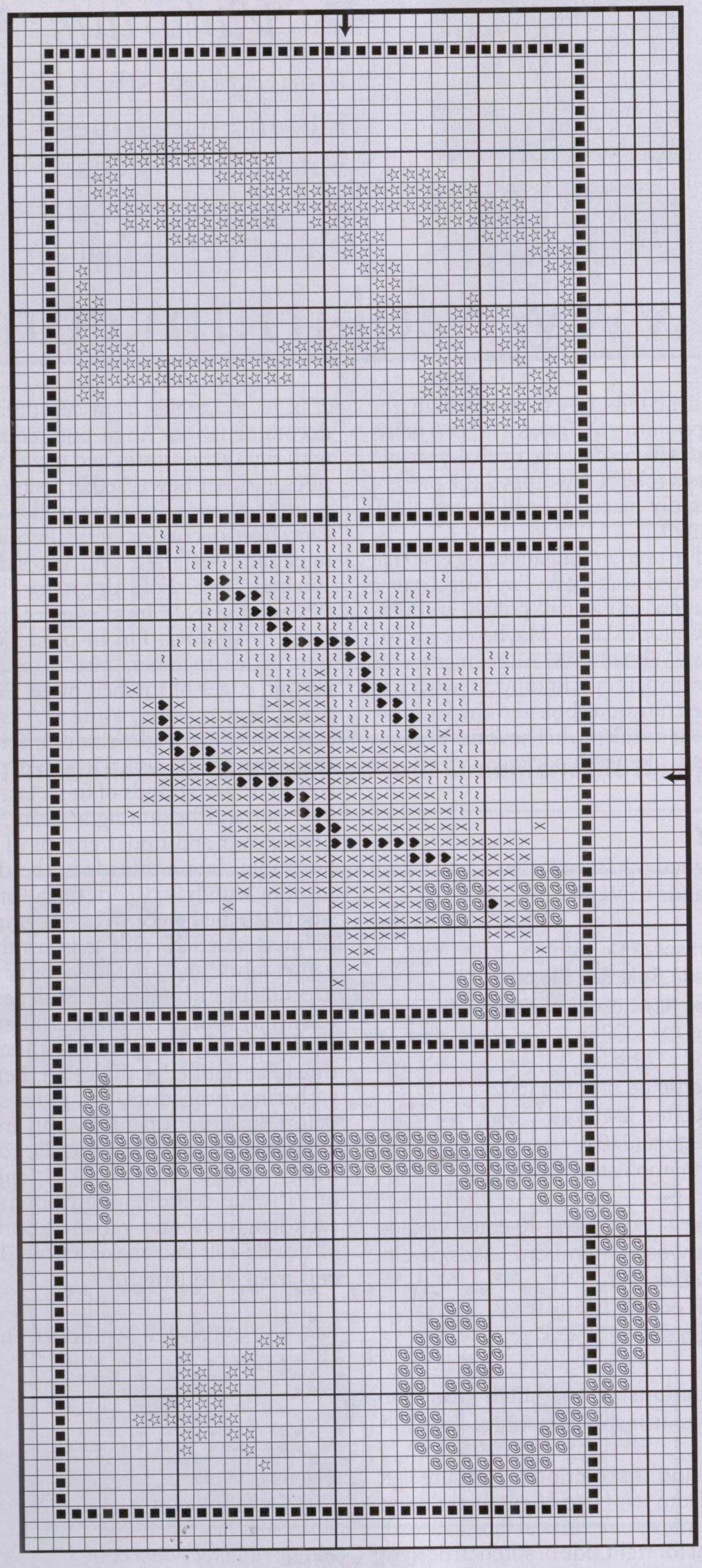
Fabric: 11" x 9" piece 40-count vintage basketweave linen from Lakeside Linens & Designs
Stitch count: 39H x 95W
Design size: 2" x 4 3/5"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Finishing instructions: Measure out 1 1/2" from left edge of stitched design and remove one vertical fabric thread. Repeat for right side of stitched design. Press stitched piece from wrong side, straightening as much as possible. Trim stitched piece to 10" x 8". Cut two 2" x 8" rectangles from coordinating decorator fabric. Align one rectangle with right edge of stitched piece, right sides together. Sew together, using a 1/4" seam allowance. Press seam allowance away from decorator fabric. Repeat for remaining rectangle and left side of stitched piece. Fold decorator fabric to wrong side 1" from edge of linen. Press to set fold. Pin in place. With right sides together, match top and bottom edges of stitched piece. Pin in place. Sew together, using a 1/2" seam allowance. Turn right-side out. Thread a tapestry needle with a length of pearl cotton or 5–6 strands of floss. Leaving a 4" tail and beginning at seam, run needle over and under groups of 5–6 horizontal fabric threads in the ditch made by withdrawn fabric thread on left side of stitched piece. When beginning point is reached, pull tails firmly to gather fabric and knot floss. Bury tails in center of stitched piece. Stuff needle roll firmly with polyester fiberfill, stuffing until 1"–2" away from withdrawn thread at right edge of design. Repeat gathering procedure for right side. Before knotting opening shut, insert additional fiberfill until needle roll is firmly stuffed. Cut two 12" lengths of 1/2"-wide coordinating ribbon. Tie each length around gathered portion of needle roll and make a bow. Trim tails to desired length.

Finished by Carmen Sutton

Hands to Work
203 Camellia Court
Stephens City, VA 22655
e-mail: *riffletracy@aol.com*
Web site:
www.handstowork.typepad.com



Joy

©2008 Hands to Work

HeartStrings/ The Artists Collection

Pat Thode

My business associate, Gail Beets (The Artists Collection), always said that my Santas looked like my husband. He passed away rather unexpectedly this spring, so this is my homage to him. He also was extremely fond of Christmas cookies.

Have a wonderful Christmas, and hold those you love near to you.

SANTA ANGEL

Designed by Pat Thode
of HeartStrings/The Artists Collection

DMC® Anchor®

■	310	403	black
X	435	365	brown, vy. lt.
@	498	1005	red, dk.
ш	712	926	cream
♡	899	38	rose, med.
ℓ	950	4146	desert sand, lt.
–	3774	778	desert sand, vy. lt.
•	blanc	2	white

DMC® Satin Floss

	S5200	white

DMC® Color Variation Floss

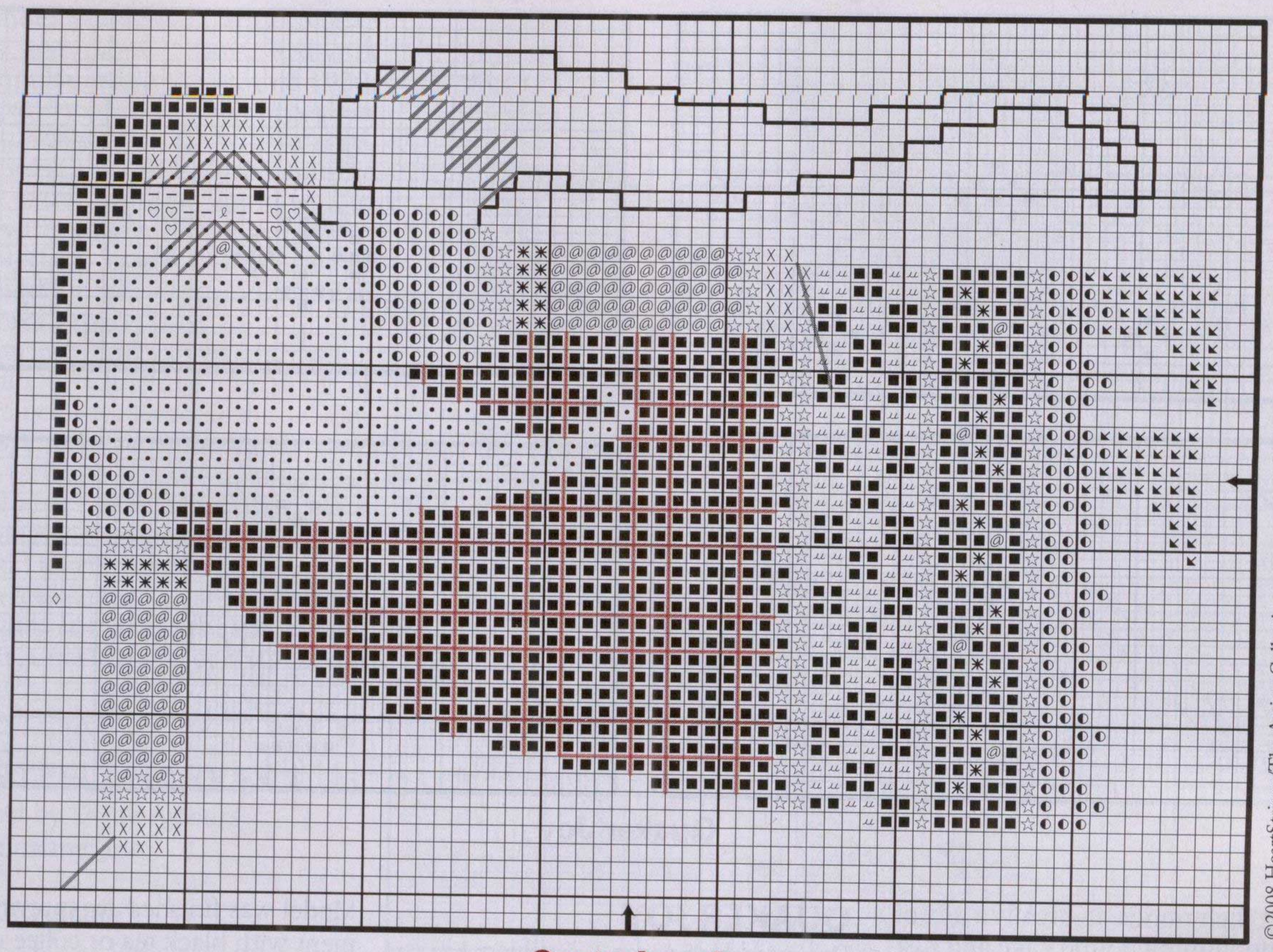
◐	4210	radiant ruby

Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4

☆	002HL	gold, hi lustre
↙	005	black
$	009HL	emerald, hi lustre

Just Another Button Company™

◊	3402.S	small tarnished gold star
	4442.S	small snowflake
	4457.T	tiny fred
	4458.T	tiny ginger



©2008 HeartStrings/The Artists Collection

Santa Angel

Fabric: 9" x 9" piece 28-count Monet blue linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 48H x 66W
Design size: 3 3/8" x 4 3/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of very fine braid.

Backstitch over two threads for wings and red lines on Santa's coat, using one strand 002HL.

Work straight stitch atop cross stitch, using two strands of floss for Santa's mustache or one strand of very fine braid for holly leaves at bottom of coat.

Work French knot atop red cross stitches between holly leaves, using four strands 498/1005 and wrapping floss around needle once.

Work Byzantine stitch over four threads to fill in wing, using two strands S5200. (**Note:** For clarity, only one row of Byzantine stitch is depicted on chart. Work this row first to establish pattern, then work outward in both directions, compensating with smaller stitches as wing narrows.)

Work long stitch for short ends of garland in Santa's hand, using one strand 002HL.

Referring to photograph for placement, lay a length of 002HL braid loosely between Santa's hands. Attach remaining buttons atop braid to secure braid in place, using two strands of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Straight-stitch instructions:

blanc	2	mustache; eyebrows
009HL		holly leaves

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Trim made using purchased cording.

HeartStrings/The Artists Collection
2128 Grand Boulevard
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
e-mail: *heartstrings@cfu.net*

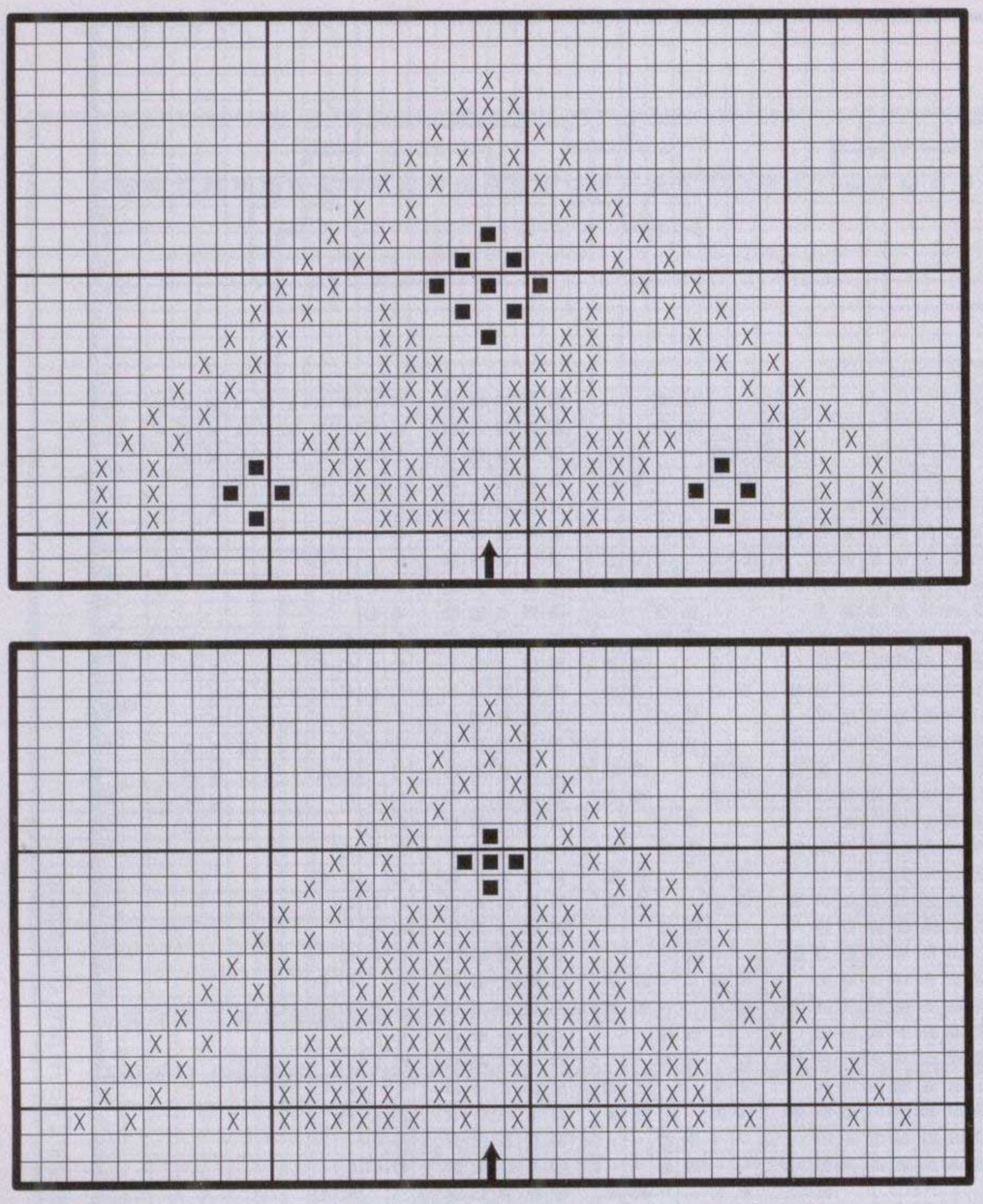
Homespun Elegance, Ltd.

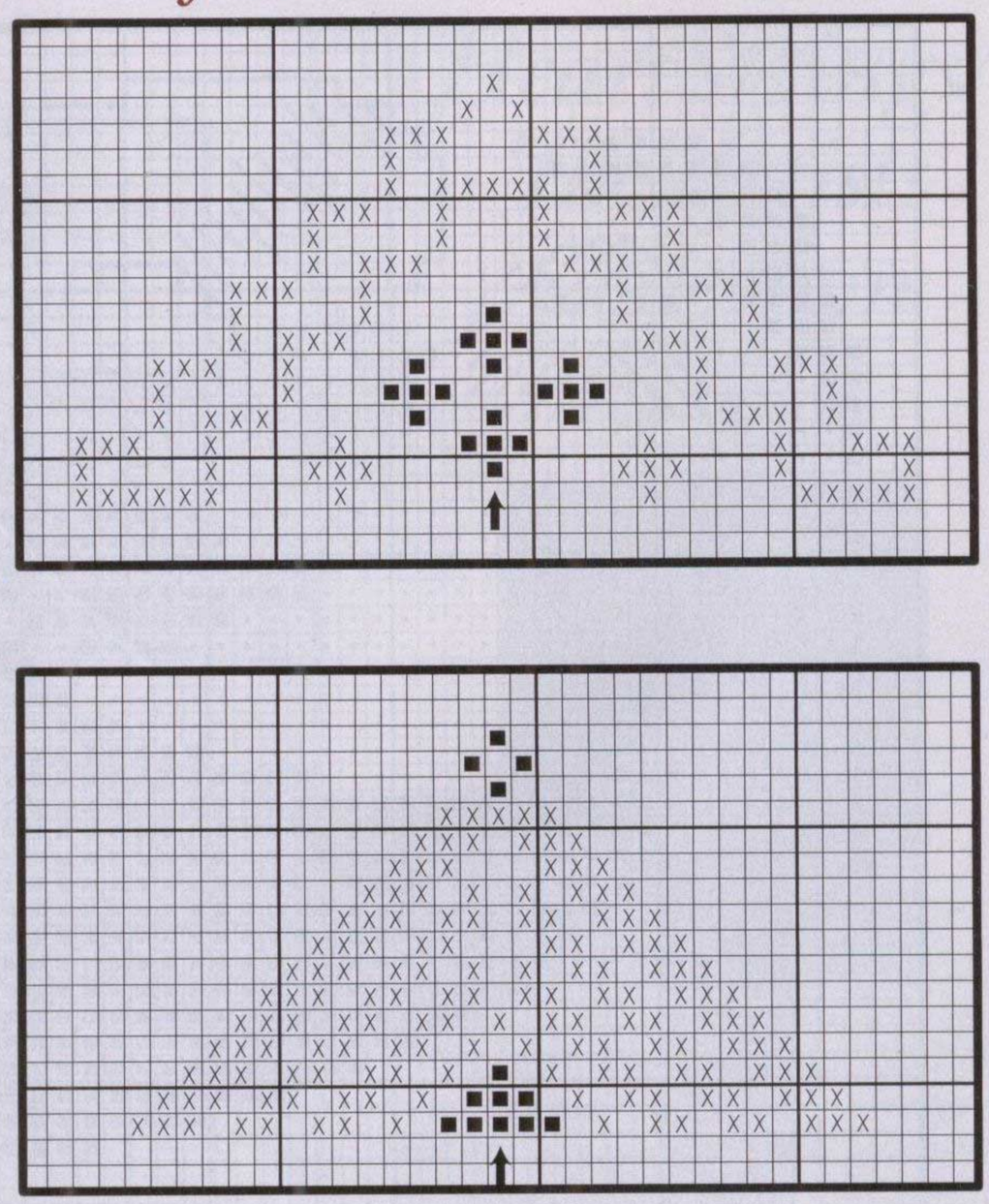
Sandra J. Sullivan

I know everyone must have a favorite aunt or two. I have been blessed with many. Several of them were the most wonderful cooks. This year, I am sharing with you a favorite Christmas recipe from my Aunt Jenny. She is no longer with us, but the memory of her and her delicious foods remain for all of us to enjoy.

I know most of my friends and family profess to not like fruit cake. With this recipe, I can almost guarantee to

A kit is available for this project. Please go to www.just-crossstitch.com for details.





©2008 Homespun Elegance

Quaker Joy

change their minds. It is really a mix of rich and yummy pound cake and just a little fruit. If you love almonds, this is for you. Add a little lemon curd for a slice of holiday delight!

Aunt Jenny's White Fruit Cake

2 c. salted butter, softened
2 1/2 c. sugar
6 eggs
1 1/2 oz. lemon juice
4 c. all-purpose flour, divided
1/2 lb. diced candied cherries
1/2 lb. diced candied pineapple
1 lb. finely chopped almonds

Preheat oven to 275°. Grease and flour a tube pan.

In a mixing bowl, beat butter until smooth. Add sugar; beat until smooth. Add eggs one at a time, mixing well between each addition. Add lemon juice and mix to combine. Gradually add 3 3/4 cups flour and mix to combine. (**Note:** Do not overmix.)

In a medium bowl, combine fruit with remaining 1/4 cup flour; mix until coated. Stir into batter. Stir in almonds. Pour into prepared pan. (**Note:** Do not fill pan more than 2/3 full.) Bake for 2 1/2–3 hours.

QUAKER JOY

Designed by Sandra J. Sullivan of Homespun Elegance

	DMC®	Anchor®	
■	319	218	pistachio green, vy. dk.
X	221	897	shell pink, vy. dk.

Fabric: 32-count pointed cream linen prefinished ornament from Homespun Elegance
Stitch count: 33H x 18W (per panel)
Design size: 2 1/8" x 1 1/8" (per panel)

Instructions: Referring to photo for placement, center one design in each triangle, leaving four linen threads between bottom of design and side seam of ornament.

Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Finishing instructions: Referring to manufactuer's instructions, sew four points together at center of ornament. Model was finished with one Homespun Elegance Olde Brass pinwheel button on front and one Olde Brass amber pearl button on back of ornament. Sew through each button several times, pulling thread tightly to tuft ornament. Trim and hanger made by braiding lengths of DMC® 221 and 319 together. (**Note:** Model was finished by spraying ornament with black tea or coffee on linen to create an antiqued finish.)

Homespun Elegance, Ltd.
11047 Pierson Drive, Suite I
Fredericksburg, VA 22408
e-mail:
stitching@homespunelegance.com
Web site:
www.homespunelegance.com

Imaginating, Inc.

Diane Arthurs

"Heartfelt Harvey" is a cross stitch adaptation of redwork. The history of redwork, or turkeywork as it is also known, is an easy-to-stitch technique that was used to add charm to

household linens such as decorative towels and pillow shams. Redwork was popular between 1885 and 1930, when patterns were available in popular women's magazines. The term "turkey-work" was used because women were paying extra for turkey red thread to stitch with. Unlike other threads, it was colorfast. Simple outline stitches were used for redwork, along with an occasional French knot.

When we think of red and white, especially at Christmas, we think of candy canes, the essence of the holiday. Here is a red and white candy cane cookie recipe to prepare. Our suggestion is to bake a batch and then place the cookies in a clear cellophane bag or red box. Tie a bow with red and white ribbon, and attach "Heartfelt Harvey" to the gift. It makes an extra-special treat for a hostess gift or that special someone.

Enjoy!

HEARTFELT HARVEY

Designed by Diane Arthurs of Imaginating, Inc.

	DMC®	Anchor®	
X	321	47	red

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 18-count white Aida from Charles Craft

Stitch count: 59H x 59W

Design size: 3 3/8" x 3 3/8"

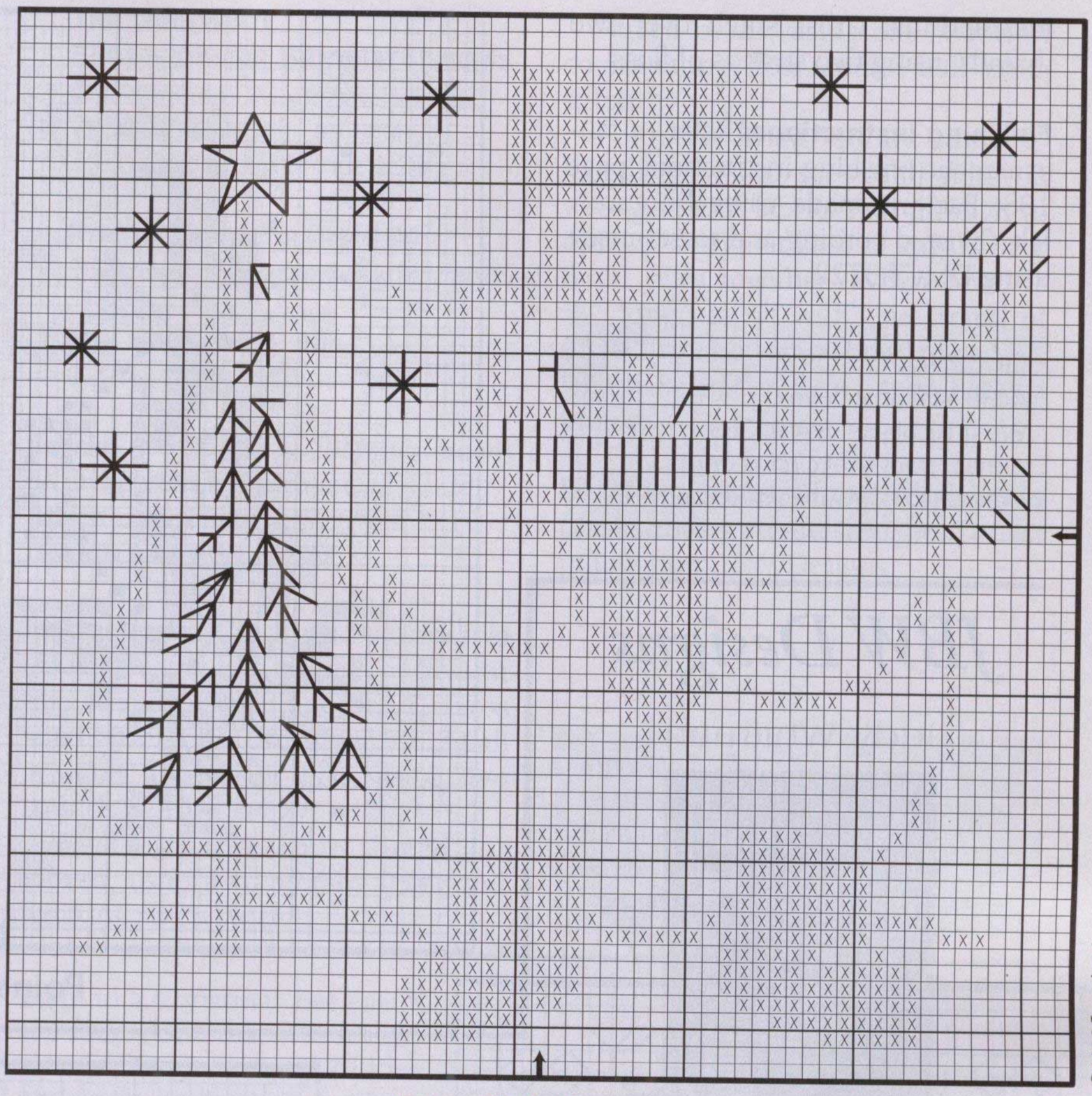
Instructions: Cross stitch over one square, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over one square, using one strand of floss.

Work diamond eyelet stitch over four squares, using one strand 321/47. Work diamond eyelet stitch over six squares, using one strand 321/47.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Backing made using red felt. Hanger made using 20-gauge silver wire.

Imaginating, Inc.
Post Office Box 156
Rootstown, OH 44272
e-mail: *imag8ing@aol.com*
Web site: *www.imaginating.com*

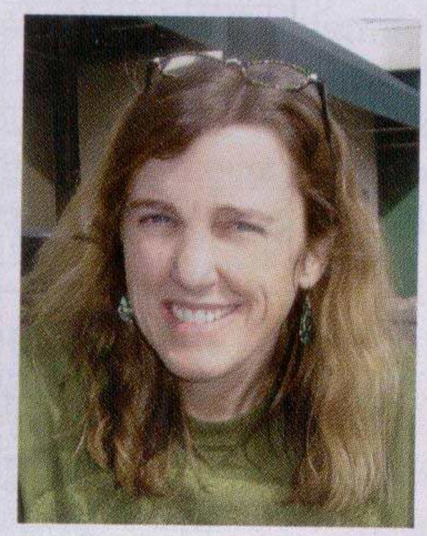


Heartfelt Harvey

©2008 Imaginating, Inc.

Ink Circles

Tracy Horner



We called them "Dog Water Candles," for lack of something better. Each freezing morning in December, my siblings or I would dump the ice from the dog's water bucket kept on the back porch. The giant ice cube was usually a few inches thick on the top and sides but still liquid in the middle. We'd drain the water and turn it upside down, leaving it on the porch. By Christmastime, we usually had enough to line the edges of the porch and outline the driveway. We'd put a votive candle in each and light them. The ice walls kept the flames from blowing out in the wind. I still remember them as being prettier than any electric holiday display.

My family now lives in an area where we don't get too many consecutive days of Dog-Water-Candle weather, but my children, having heard the tales, do their best to carry on the tradition.

POINSETTIA

Designed by Tracy Horner of Ink Circles

	DMC®	Anchor®	
•	3041	871	antique violet, med.
■	3371	382	black brown
♡	3722	1027	shell pink, med.
@	3802	1019	antique mauve, vy. dk.

Fabric: 7" x 7" piece 36-count vintage maritime white linen from Lakeside Linens & Designs

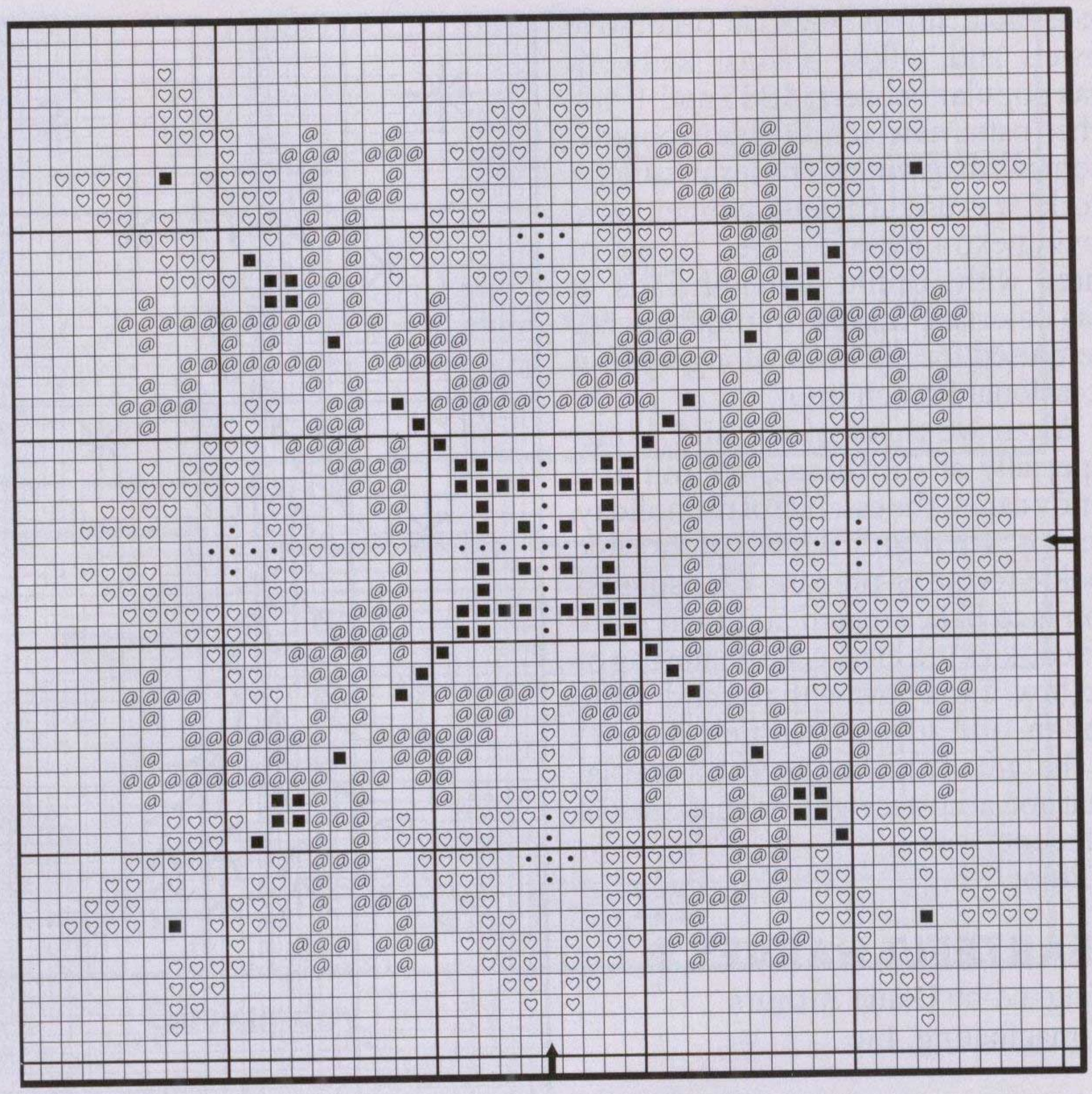
Stitch count: 47H x 47W

Design size: 2 5/8" x 2 5/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions page 108. Backing made using burgundy felt. Twisted cording and tassel made using DMC® 3722.

Ink Circles
4436 Melinda Drive
West Richland, WA 99353
e-mail: *tracy@inkcircles.com*
Web site: *www.inkcircles.com*

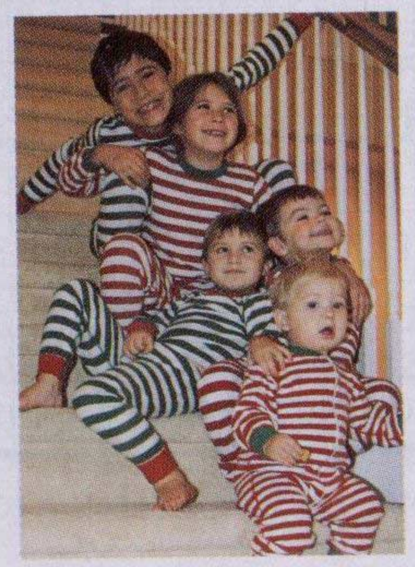


©2008 Ink Circles

Poinsettia

JBW Designs

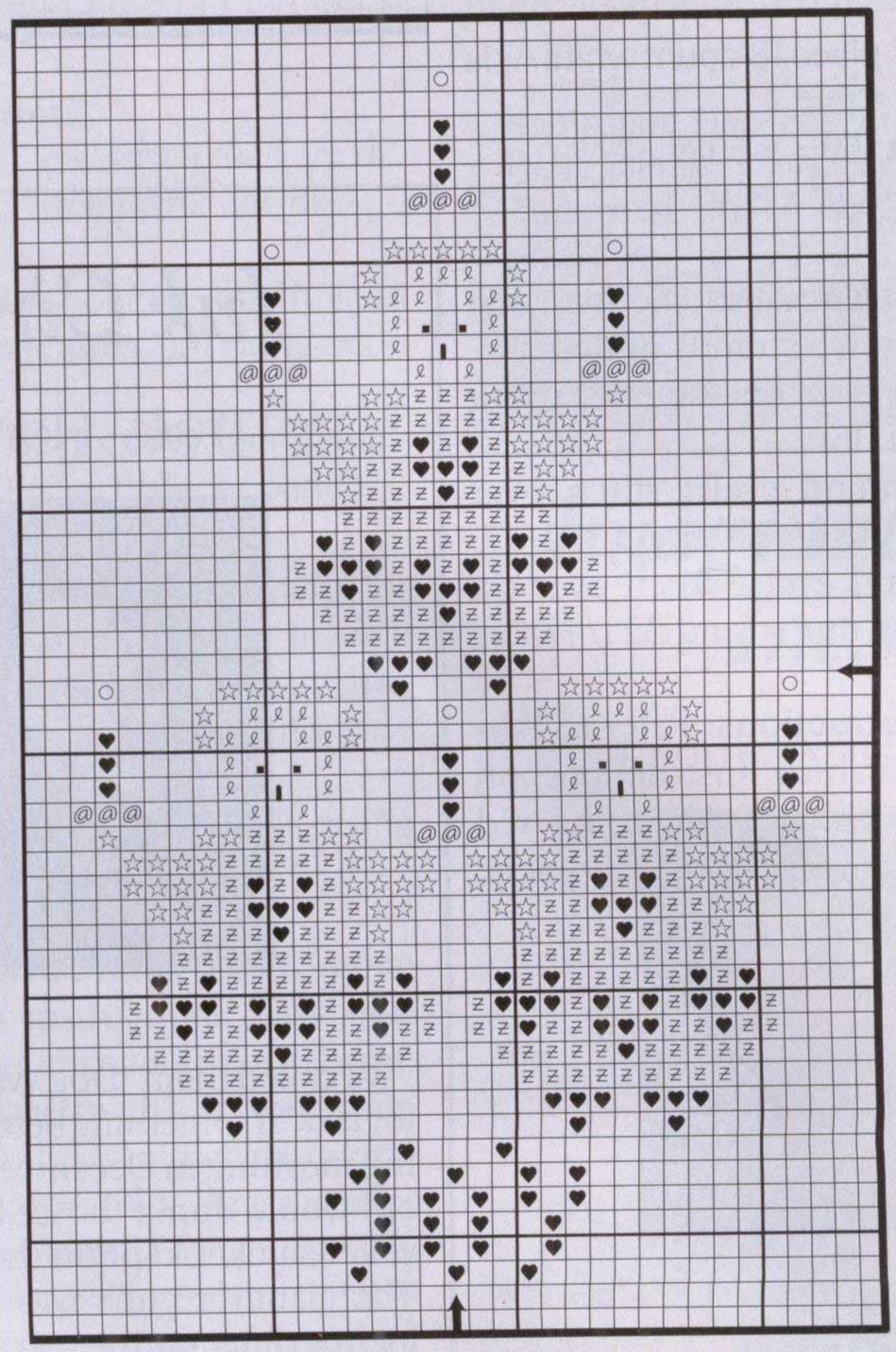
Judy Whitman



Enjoying Christmas traditions with our grandchildren is an important part of our family's annual celebration. Our traditions begin with the Festival of Trees in November and include the annual cookie baking and tea party, the family outing to cut down a fresh Christmas tree, and, of course, the decorating of the tree.

In theory, the latter tradition sounds delightful with five grandchildren, a fresh Michigan tree, a large collection of ornaments, and Christmas music playing in the background. However, this past year, I neglected to take into account the ages of the children. Wyatt and Ashton, who are 11 and 8 respectively, participate with excitement and exclaim over each of their favorite ornaments. But, when you consider the ages of the remaining three: four-and-a-half-year-old Liam, four-year-old Cody, and 18-month-old Tristan, you have the recipe for complete confusion.

Just picture four ornaments to a branch—all placed at the eye level of about two-and-a-half feet. Then notice that the lower branches have no ornaments at all because little



©2008 JBW Designs

Angel Tree

A kit is available for this project. Please go to www.just-crossstitch.com for details.

Tristan has removed them as quickly as they were hung! The final *piece de resistance* occurred the next day when I discovered a yellow rubber spatula carefully laid on the lower branches of the Christmas tree. Tristan had been playing in the dishwasher after dinner and must have decided that it was the perfect decoration! It gave us all quite a chuckle and will now be part of our décor—at least for this year.

We wish you joy during the holidays and throughout the New Year and hope that you too will find a yellow spatula in your Christmas tree!

ANGEL TREE

Designed by Judy Whitman
of JBW Designs

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥	0330 (816)	cherry wine
≠	0150 (3052)	evergreen
■	0240 (336)	midnight

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Sampler Threads
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

@	7050 (3051)	baby spinach
ℓ	7020 (3855)	butternut squash

Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4

☆	202HL	Aztec gold, hi lustre

Mill Hill Seed Beads

○	02011	Victorian gold

Fabric: 8" x 7" piece 28-count cream Milan linen from Norden Crafts, Ltd.
Stitch count: 49H x 31W
Design size: 3 1/2" x 2 1/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of very fine braid. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear for eyes, using two strands 0240.

Backstitch over one thread for mouth, using two strands 0330 and working stitch twice.

Attach beads, using one strand of coordinating floss and a half cross stitch.

For each braid, secure three 9" lengths of 7020 six-strand floss on wrong side of fabric. Pull through to front of design at base of angel's hair. Braid plies together. When braid is 3/4" long, tie off with one strand of 0330. Trim bottom of braid to desired length. Repeat until each angel has two braids.

Finishing instructions: Model was finished using pre-finished green velvet pillow from JBW Designs.

JBW Designs
9118 Highlandview Drive
Kalamazoo, MI 49009
e-mail: *judy@jbwdesigns.com*
Web site: *www.jbwdesigns.com*

Jeannette Douglas Designs

Jeannette Douglas

I grew up in a somewhat strict, religious household, and my parents observed our church's tradition of not having a Christmas tree. Growing up, I often yearned for a tree to decorate. I tried to imagine what it would look like, decorated with tinsel and ornaments and twinkling lights. An illuminated star would rest at the very top, just brushing the ceiling of our 200-year-old farmhouse. Around its base, gifts in all shapes and sizes would be stacked, tempting us to pick them up and shake them to determine the contents.

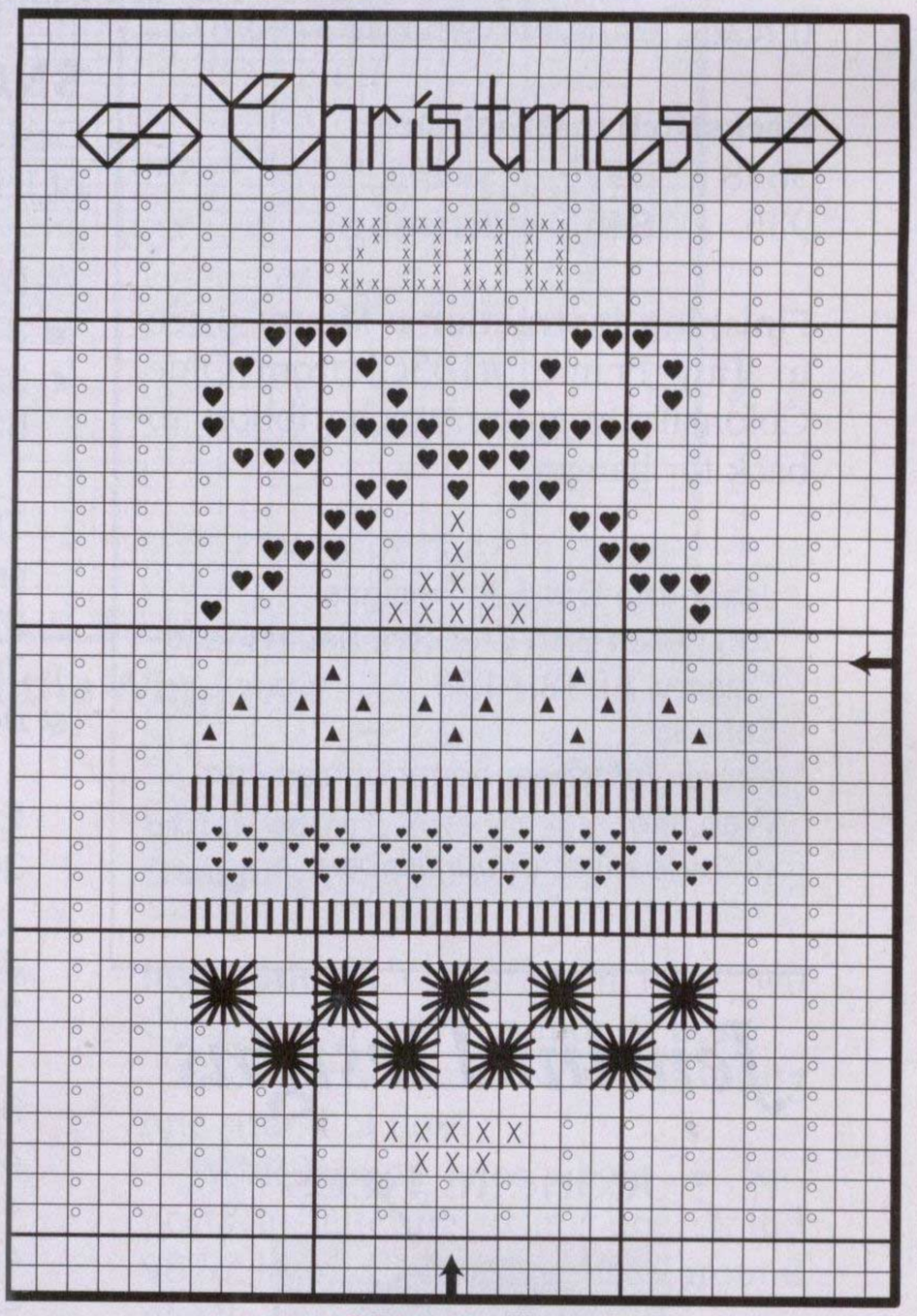
In reality, my mother hid the presents on Christmas Eve, and then we children would be sent to scour the house for them in a Christmas Eve event. If I found one that was for my sister, I had to leave it hidden and keep its location a secret, as we each had to find our own gift.

When I married, I was excited to decorate my first tree. Together, my husband and I bought a Christmas ball ornament that celebrated our first "married" Christmas. It's been over 25 years now, and this ornament still has pride of place on our family's Christmas tree. It is in memory of this ornament that I designed the Christmas ball ornament for this year and give you a "ball" recipe.

2008 BALL ORNAMENT

Designed by Jeannette Douglas
of Jeannette Douglas Designs

	DMC®	Anchor®	
♥	3858	897	rosewood, med.
▲	3740	872	antique violet, dk.
✳	3740	872	antique violet, dk. (Rhodes stitch)
	3011	856	khaki green, dk.
	936	846	avocado green, vy. dk.



2008 Ball Ornament

©2008 Jeannette Douglas Designs

A kit is available for this project. Please go to www.just-crossstitch.com for details.

Weeks Dye Works™
Hand Over Dyed Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X 2219 whiskey

DMC® Pearl Cotton #12

○ 712 cream (tent stitch)

Fabric: 7" x 6" piece 32-count natural Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 42H x 25W
Design size: 2⅝" x 1⅝"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Work cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear, using one strand of floss.

Work tent stitch over one thread where small symbols appear for background, using one strand of pearl cotton.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work vertical satin stitch over two threads, using two strands 3011/856.

Work Rhodes stitch over four threads, using two strands 3740/872.

Backstitch instructions:

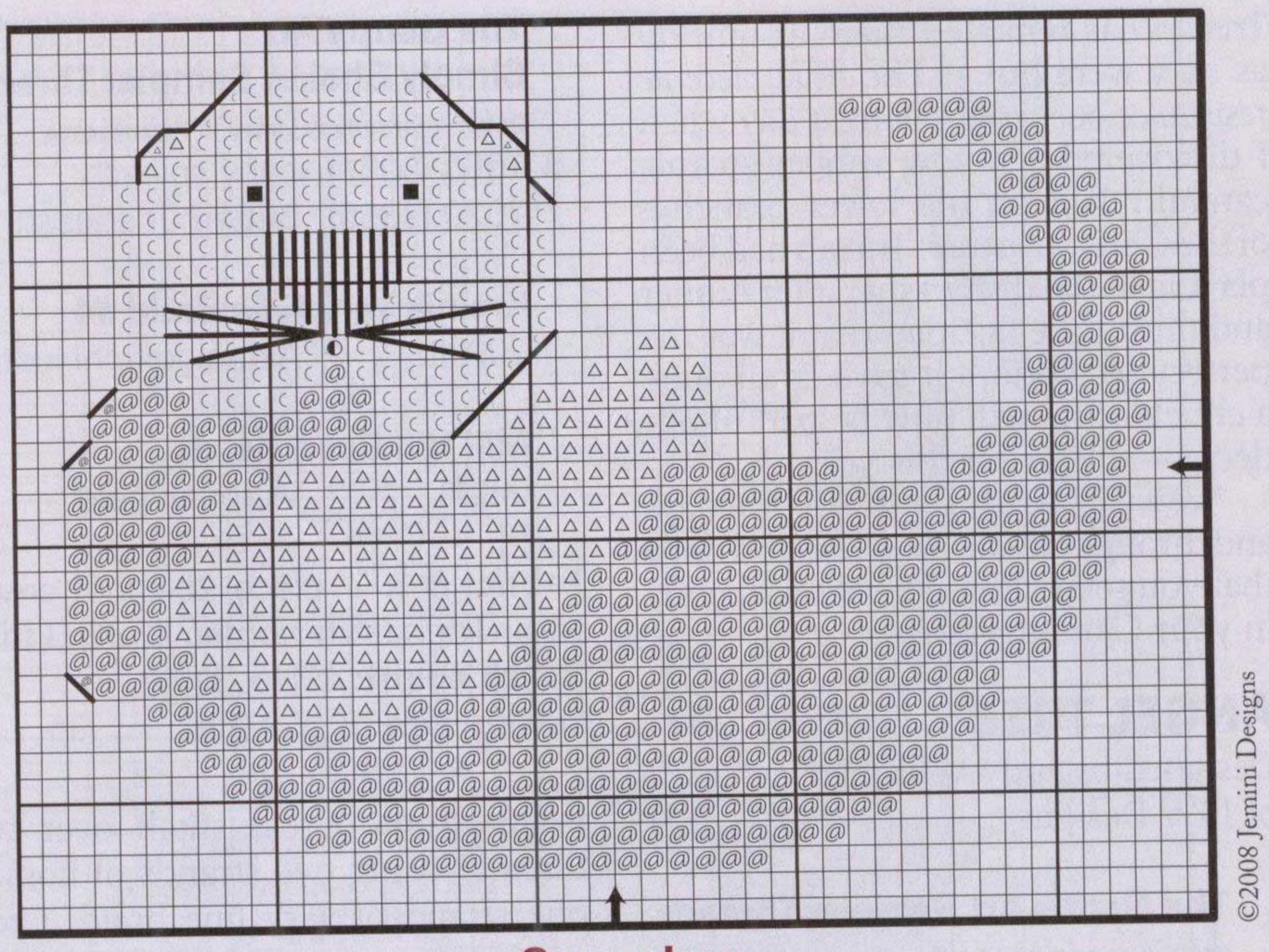
3858	897	swirls
936	846	lettering

Finishing instructions: Mount piece in Tiny Frame (#103G) from Olde Colonial Designs. Attach ribbon to back for hanger.

Jeannette Douglas Designs
708 Coach Bluff Crescent South West
Calgary, AB T3H 1A8
Canada
e-mail: *info@jeannettedouglas.com*
Web site:
www.jeannettedouglas.com

Jemini Designs

Jeanette Rees



Snowdon

Sea otters will wrap themselves in kelp so they will not float away while sleeping. This little guy has wrapped himself in Christmas tinsel while decorating his own little tree.

SNOWDON

Designed by Jeanette Rees
of Jemini Designs

DMC® Anchor®

■	310	403	black
◐	321	47	red
	blanc	2	white

The Gentle Art Simply Wool

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

△	0110W (611)	dried thyme
☾	7000W (422)	harvest basket
@	0440W (610)	maple syrup

Estaz Glissen Gloss

30 green

Just Another Button Company™

2209.S	small northwoods pine
3314.S	small golden star
4426.T	tiny blue bulb
4427.T	tiny red bulb (2)
4428.T	tiny green bulb
4429.T	tiny gold bulb
4430.T	tiny white bulb
4431.T	tiny plum bulb

Fabric: 7" x 8" piece 28-count miracle mint Lugana® from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 31H x 42W
Design size: 2¼" x 3"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of cotton floss or one strand of wool. Work three-quarter cross stitch where small symbols appear. (**Note:** Thin lines indicate stitch placement and are not to be backstitched.)

Backstitch over two theads where heavy lines appear for ears, using one strand 0110W.

Work long stitch for whiskers, using one strand blanc/2. (**Note:** Attach only one end of long stitch.)

Work vertical satin stitch for nose, using two strands 310/403.

Referring to photograph for placement, lay several lengths of Glissen Gloss, couching in place with one strand of coordinating floss. Ends of garland trailing from otter's body may be left loose.

Attach buttons, using one strand of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Twisted-cording trim made using DMC® 3813. Hanger made using Glissen Gloss 30.

Jemini Designs
246 Serenity Pointe Drive
Murphy, NC 28906
e-mail: *jeanetterees@aol.com*

Julia Lucas Designs

Julia Lucas

When I think back over the Christmases I've known, each one had its wondrous, magical aspect, as well as its elements of awful. Life's like that. We've had big gatherings with every possible assortment of relations—family and one-timers—to Christmas with just us two. Both love and tempers have flared, but all in all, I wouldn't have changed any of them.

I've learned that the day does not have to be perfect and that often the unexpected events can be the best. My strongest and fondest memories are of the smallest things. The first Christmas I helped my future husband wrap a small truck for his son. The first turkey I cooked in my home—tough and dry, but mine. Or just the perfect snowfall.

Whatever your Christmas plans include, take time to savor the small moments. And may all your moments be wonderful!

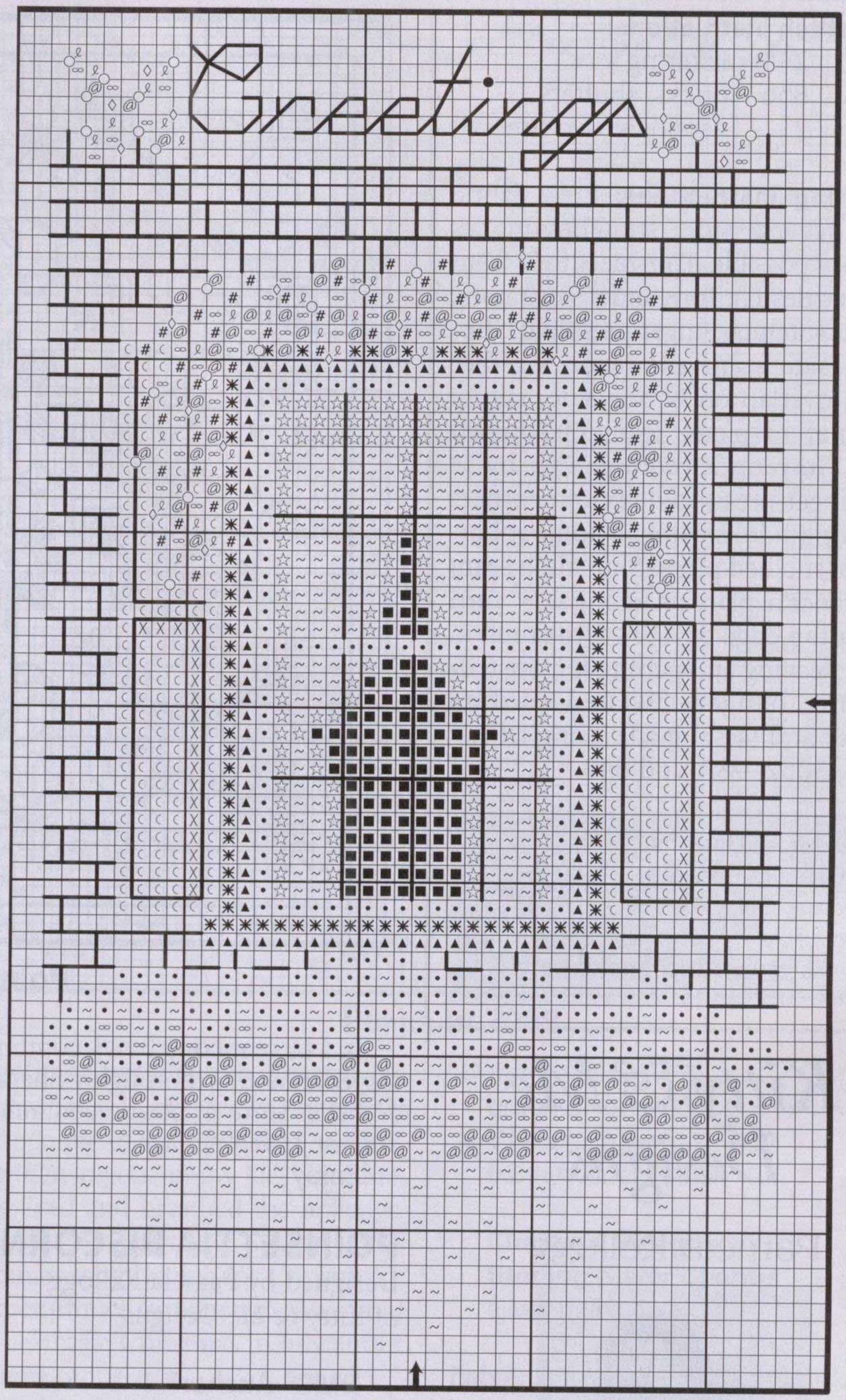
Recipe for Christmas

Dash of planning
1 teaspoon spontaneity
1 tablespoon sentimental reflection
1 cup laughter
1 quart love
Gallons of patience

Mix all together and serve warm!

DECK THE WINDOWS

Designed by Julia Lucas
of Julia Lucas Designs



©2008 Julia Lucas Designs

Deck the Windows

DMC® Anchor®

▲	839	1086	beige brown, dk.
✳	840	1084	beige brown, med.
☆	926	850	gray green, med.
~	927	849	gray green, lt.
#	987	244	forest green, dk.
ℓ	989	242	forest green
X	3012	855	khaki green, med.
☾	3013	853	khaki green, lt.
@	3051	845	green gray, dk.
∞	3052	844	green gray, med.
■	3799	236	pewter gray, vy. dk.
•	blanc	2	white
	3011	856	khaki green, dk.

Mill Hill® Petite Seed Beads

◊	40557	gold
○	42013	red

Mill Hill® Treasures

12055	wreath and bow

Fabric: 10" x 7" piece 28-count chai tea hand-dyed Jobelan from Wichelt Imports, Inc.

Stitch count: 75H x 43W
Design size: 5 3/8" x 3 1/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work French knot where • appears in lettering, using one strand 987/244 and wrapping floss around needle twice.

Attach beads, using one strand 3013/853 and a full cross stitch.

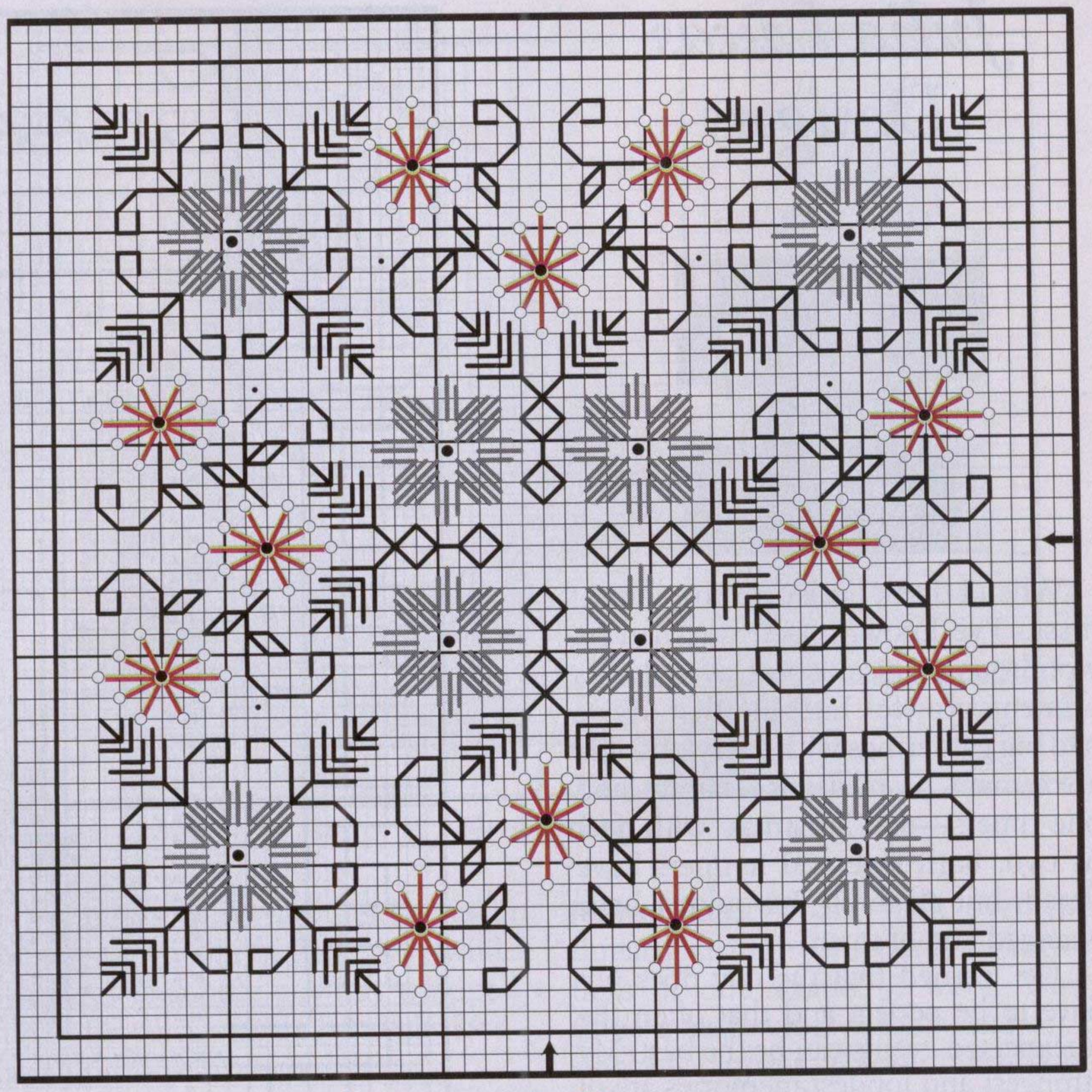
Attach treasure after finishing, referring to photo for placement.

Backstitch instructions:

987	244	lettering
3011	856	bricks, shutters
blanc	2	windows (two strands)

Finishing instructions: Press fabric from reverse side, straightening as much as possible. Trim piece to 2" from stitched design. Turn under sides along edge of stitching; finger-press fold. Slip-stitch side seam allowance together along overlap on wrong side, taking care not to pierce front of stitched piece. Turn under bottom edge by 1" and finger-press; fold bottom corners to wrong side, creating a point at bottom of stitched piece. Slip-stitch seam allowance in place on wrong side. Turn under top edge by 1½". Slip-stitch in place, leaving an opening for twisted-cording hanger. Twisted-cording hanger and tassel made using DMC® 3013, 3052, 987, and 840.

Julia Lucas Designs
11 Cobham Crescent
Toronto, ON M4A 1V7
Canada
e-mail: *jalucas@sympatico.ca*



©2008 Kitty & Me Designs

Poinsettia Biscornu

Kitty & Me Designs

Pamela Kellogg

My grandmother and my mother always made these at Christmas. Now, my sister and I make them.

Brandy Balls

1½ Tbsp. light corn syrup
2 c. vanilla wafer crumbs
2 Tbsp. natural cocoa powder
1 c. confectioner's sugar
¼ tsp. salt
1 c. finely chopped pecans
¼ c. brandy

In a large mixing bowl, combine all ingredients; mix thoroughly. Shape into 1" balls. Store in plastic container for at least 1 week to age.

Enjoy!

POINSETTIA BISCORNU

Designed by Pamela Kellogg
of Kitty & Me Designs

DMC® Anchor®

•	blanc	2	white
	772	259	pine green, lt.

Mill Hill® Glass Seed Beads

○	02010	ice
●	02019	crystal honey

Fabric: Two 7" x 7" pieces 32-count dark olive Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 46H x 46W
Design size: 2⅞" x 2⅞"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands blanc/2.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of 772/259.

Work leaf stitch, using two strands 772/259.

Work satin-stitch poinsettia flowers (gray lines), using two strands blanc/2.

Work straight stitch where red lines appear, using two strands blanc/2.

Attach beads, using two strands of coordinating floss and a cross stitch.

Repeat backstitched border on second piece of linen.

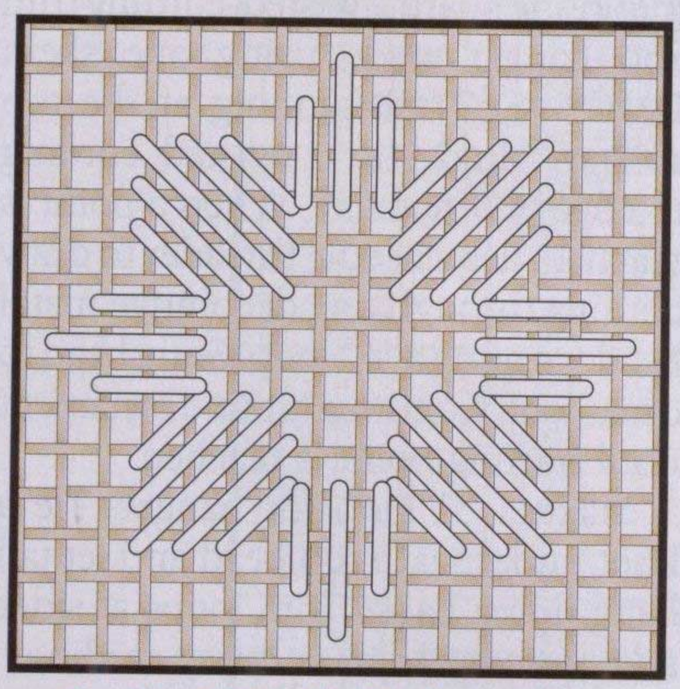
Finishing instructions: Trim fabric to ½" from backstitched border. Finger press seam allowance to wrong side along backstitched border.

Place a straight pin in the exact center of each side of stitched pieces. Secure a length of blanc/2 on the wrong side of Piece 1. Place Piece 1 and Piece 2 with wrong sides together, with corner of Piece 1 aligned with the center of one side of Piece 2. Begin lacing pieces together through backstitches. When the next corner is reached, lace through backstitches an additional time before continuing along next segment. When only one side remains to be laced together, stuff firmly with polyester fiberfill and lace opening shut. End thread and bury tails inside ornament.

Using a double length of quilting thread knotted at one end, sew through the exact center of ornament

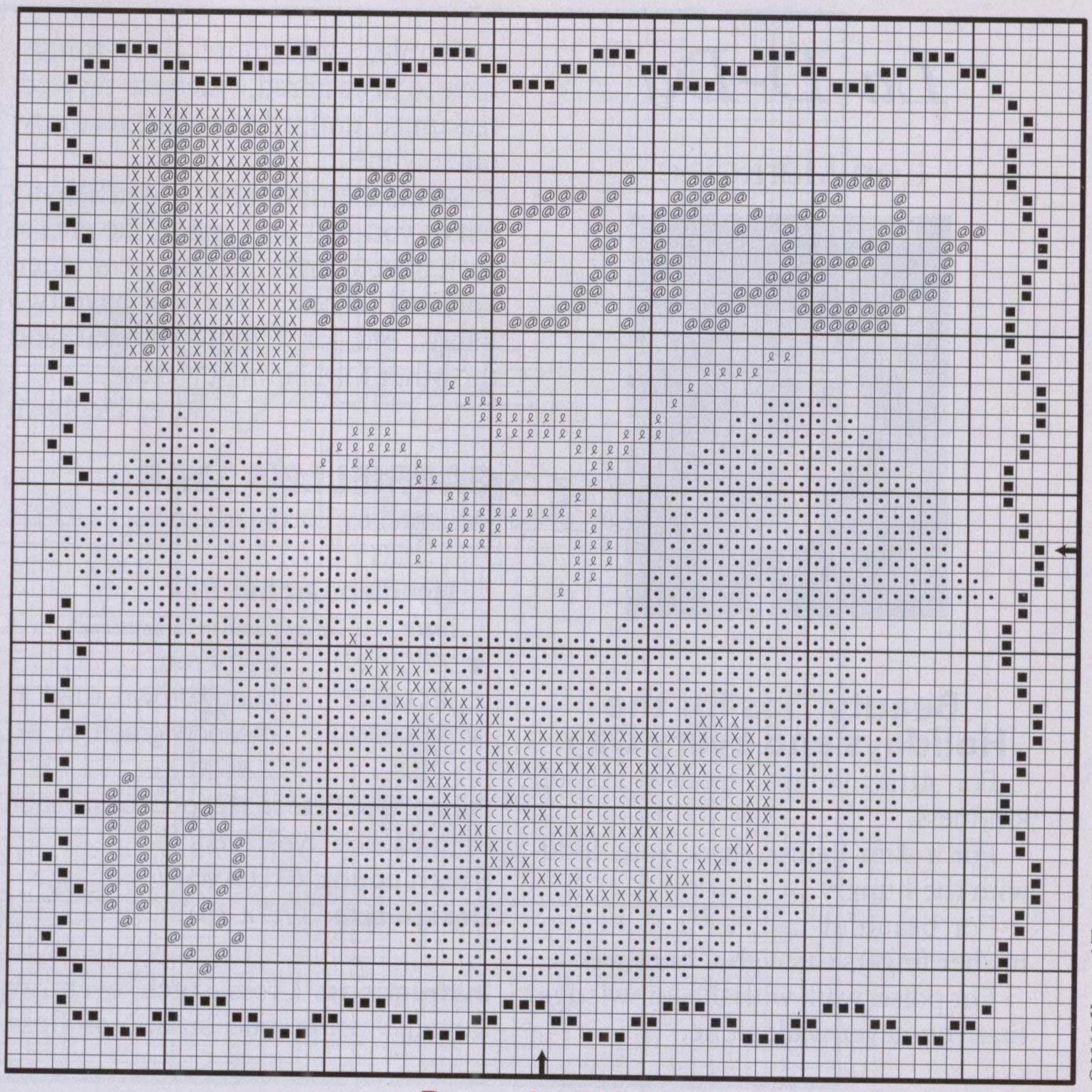
several times, pulling tightly to tuft ornament. Add a button to each side of the ornament, sewing through each buttonhole several times. End thread and bury inside ornament.

Stitched and finished by Cathy Drolet



Satin-Stitch Poinsettia

Kitty & Me Designs
Post Office Box 24
Ringwood, IL 60072-0024
e-mail: *pamkellogg@kittyandme.com*
Web site: *www.kittyandme.com*



Peace in 2008

©2008 Knotted Tree NeedleArt

Knotted Tree NeedleArt

Jamie R. Kile

This year's ornament represents what I really feel we all need—a little peace. I lost two of the most important people in my life this year: my Grandpa and Grandma Megy. Grandpa left us first one year to the day after we lost Grandpa Kile. Holding on to my cousins Heidi and Betty, Auntie Colleen, and my mom, we were all there when Grandma slipped away and joined him the day before Halloween. After 71 years of marriage, they needed to be together again sooner rather than later. We are all better off with these angels looking over us. Maybe it's fitting that Grandma was gone on the eve of what we consider in our family the opening of the "holiday season." More than anyone in my life, Grandma Megy lived and breathed the holidays. If you've ever heard the Steven Curtis Chapman song "Home for Christmas", that pretty much sums her up. We would even celebrate Christmas in July at our Montana property.

So much of my inspiration came from her. The creativity and love that seeped into everything she did was, and still is, awe inspiring. She was the first person to put a needle in my hand, so I guess that's where it all started for me. The gifts, lessons, time, smiles, hugs, and love from my grandparents are my most treasured posessions. I will always live with their influences, and in that, I find peace.

PEACE IN 2008

Designed by Jamie R. Kile
of Knotted Tree NeedleArt

Crescent Colors
Hand Dyed Cotton Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

- • toasted marshmallow (543)
- X Plymouth rock (451)
- @ nutmeggie (3726)
- ℓ green onion (523)
- ■ Wisconsin woods (779)
- ☾ bunny honey (3861)

Charland Designs
Sterling Silver Charms
silver bell

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count quicksilver linen from Lakeside Linens & Designs
Stitch count: 63H x 63W
Design size: 4" x 4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Attach charm, using two strands of Plymouth rock and referring to photo for placement.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Trim and hanger made using coordinating 3/8" ribbon.

Knotted Tree NeedleArt
52216 Fruitvale Road
Milton Freewater, OR 97862
Web site: *www.knottedtree.com*

La-D-Da

Lori Markovic

Beauty Tips for the Holidays and Every Day

For attractive lips, speak words of kindness.

For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry.

For beautiful hair, let a child run his/her fingers through it once a day.

For poise, walk with the knowledge that you never walk alone.

People, even more than things, have to be restored, renewed, revived, reclaimed, and redeemed; never throw out anyone.

Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you will find one at the end of each of your arms. As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands; one for helping yourself, and the other for helping others.

—Audrey Hepburn

GABRIELLE'S STAR

Designed by Lori Markovic of La-D-Da

Needlepoint Inc. Silk

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥	227 (221)	berry red,
☾	183 (841	bunny brown, med. lt.
✳	348 (936)	meadow green, vy. dk.

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 35-count beige linen from Weeks Dye Works™

Stitch count: 61H x 65W

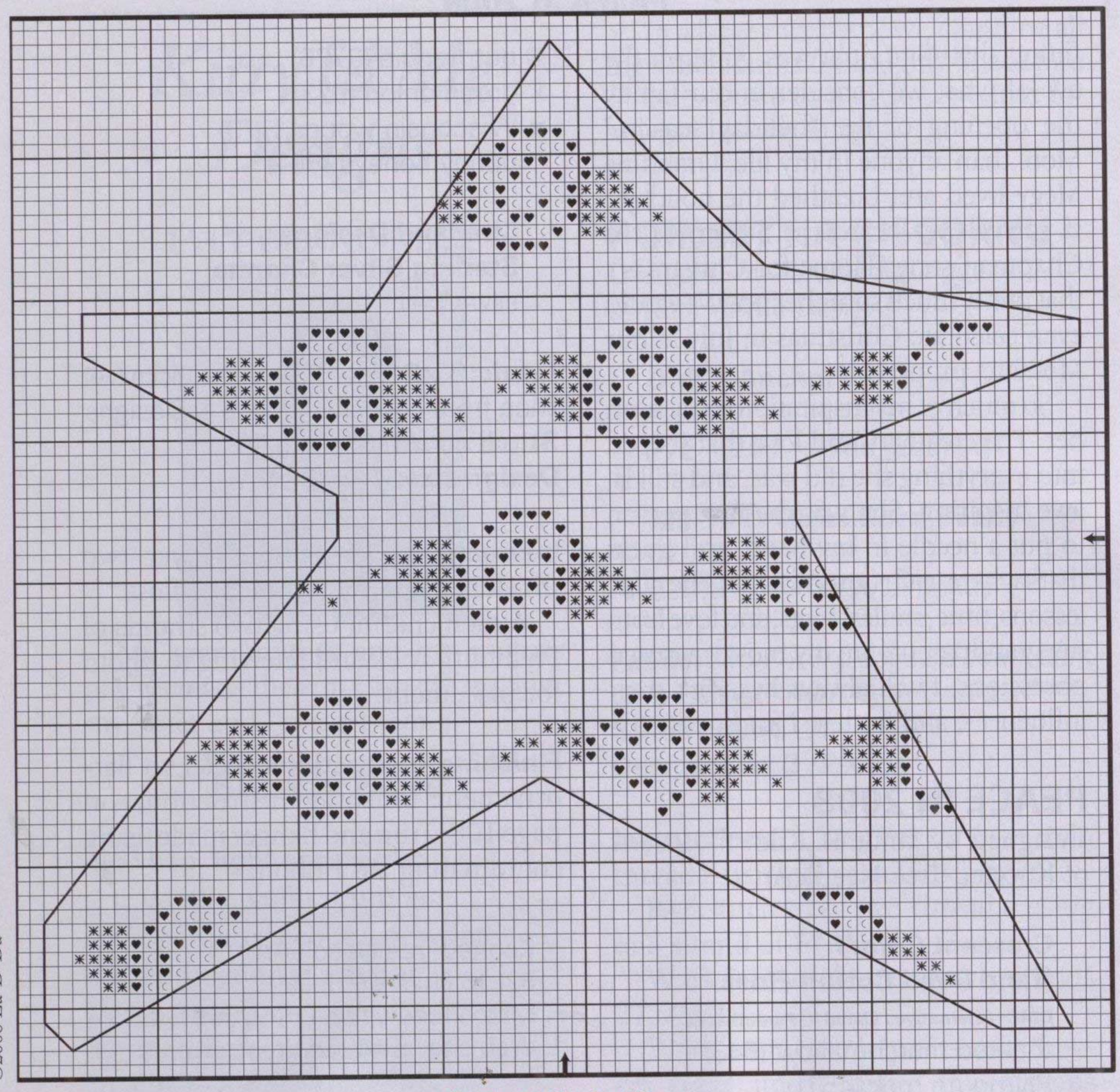
Design size: 3 1/2" x 3 3/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss. (**Note:** Star outline is for ornament finishing only and is not to be back-stitched.)

Finishing instructions: Refer to ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Use star outline as template for mounting board. Twisted-cording trim and hanger made using one skein DMC® #E677. Beginning at the top of star, blind stitch twisted cording to edge of ornament. When a point is reached, use a needle threader to draw cording through one decorative metal bead, creating a 3/4" loop. Snug bead to ornament. Continue around ornament until starting point is reached.

Make a 3" loop for hanger. Tie a knot underneath top bead and let tail hang down back. Trim loops at sides and bottom of star and fray cording.

La-D-Da
1226 Cleveland Avenue
Racine, WI 53405
e-mail: *lorimarkovic@hotmail.com*



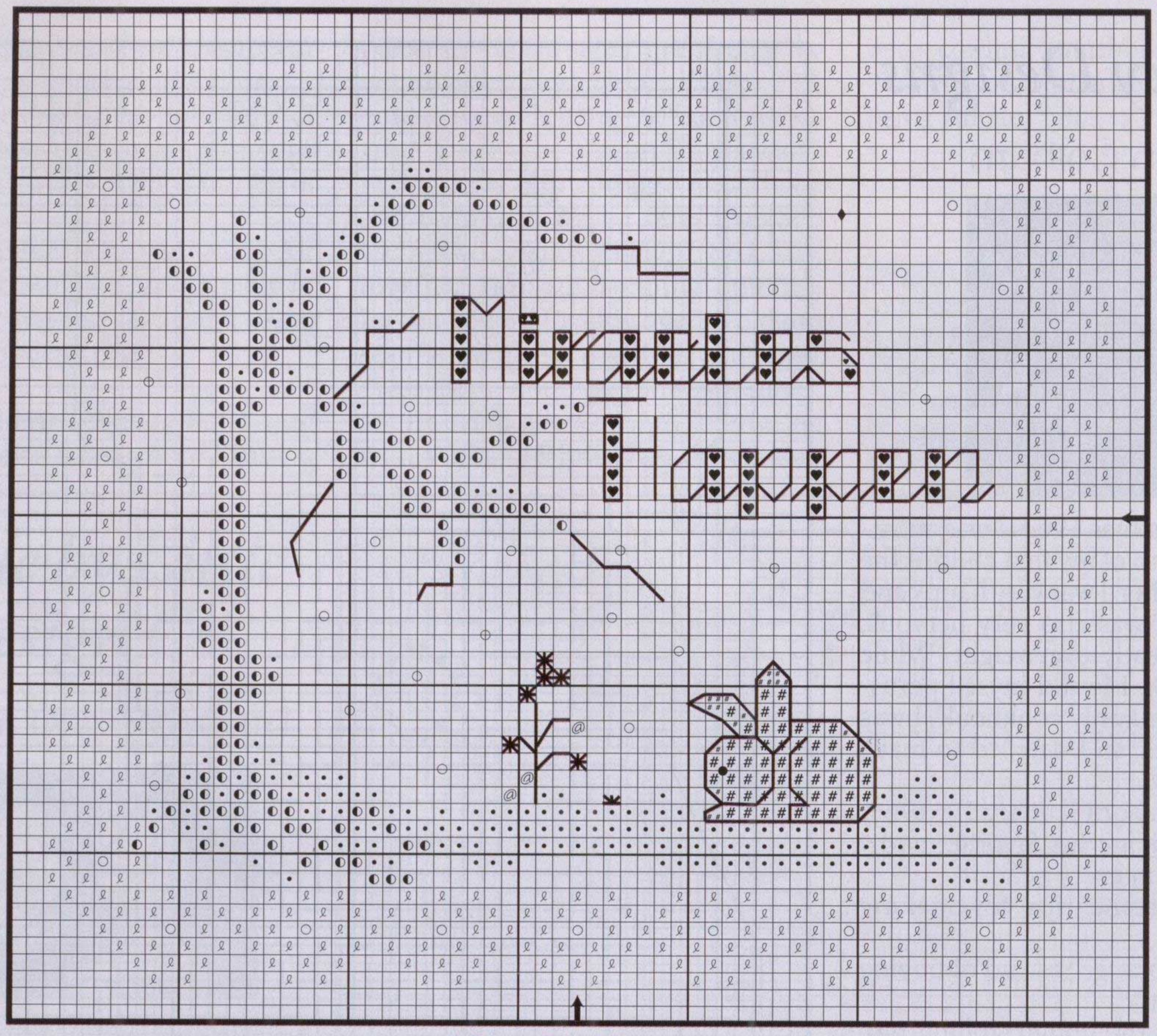
©2008 La-D-Da

Gabrielle's Star

Ladybug Lane Designs

Jennifer Cooke-Rabig

A long time ago, circumstance made it necessary for my grandparents to raise me, and I very rarely was able to see my mother (this changed only a few years ago). In any case, each year my grandparents would ask me what I wanted for Christmas, and each year I said... "nothing but to see my mother." Each Christmas morning, I would wake up full of excitement and the promise of what I wanted being "under the tree." Each year, it was always a sweater, a book, or a new dress—but not what I hoped for.



©2008 Ladybug Lane Designs

Life goes on, and the years passed until one year when I said "nothing particular" and went to bed, fully expecting to get up with the same normal gifts. Well, around midnight, I woke up to find a warm hand in mine. There was my beautiful mother sitting by my bed, holding my hand. She wasn't able to stay for long, but my wish came true and proved to me that miracles happen. I wish for each and every one of you your own true Christmas Miracle—in your heart and in your life—just like the miracle of the baby born at Christmas.

MIRACLES HAPPEN

Designed by Jennifer Cooke-Rabig of Ladybug Lane Designs

DMC® Anchor®

·[	B5200	1	snow white
·[	032 Kreinik BF		pearl
	3021	905	brown gray, vy. dk.

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

@	0180 (471)	spring grass
♥	0311 (321)	holly berry
#	1010 (318)	slate

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

◐	7029 (632)	walnut

Crescent Colors Hand Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

ℓ	garden trellis (3864)	

Rainbow Gallery Wisper

☾	W88	white

Just Another Button Company™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

◆	3309.T	tiny red heart

SJ Designs Size 14/0 Glass Seed Beads

○	1805	white pearl

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count Queen Anne's lace hand-dyed Jobelan from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 55H x 63W
Design size: 3½" x 4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. When two colors are bracketed together, use two strands of floss and one strand of blending filament. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear for bunny's tail, using one strand of Wisper.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand 3021/905.

Work French knot where • appears for bunny's eye, using one strand of floss and wrapping floss around needle once.

Work Algerian eye stitch over two threads where ✳ appears, using one strand 0311. Work partial Algerian eye stitch over two threads, using one strand 0311.

Attach beads, using one strand of coordinating floss and a full cross stitch.

Attach button, using one strand of coordinating floss.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Twisted-cording hanger made using Crescent Colours garden trellis.

Ladybug Lane Designs
8150 Pueblo Street
Mobile, AL 36619
e-mail: *jennifer@ladybuglane.com*
Web site: *www.ladybuglane.com*

Legacy Designs

Fran Colburn

It was Christmas 1963. I was anticipating the birth of my first child at the end of December. I was very happy and excited, but I was also very nervous, tense, and greatly overweight. While trying to relax, I found myself perusing my one and only cookbook. I was craving sweets, so I decided to make sugar cookies.

My son was born January 10, 1964. These cookies are his favorite, and I still make them every year.

Here are some tips for making them:

Use a real orange instead of buying pregrated zest.

The colder the dough, rolling pin, and cutting surface, the easier the job.

In place of a buttered cookie sheet, cookies can be baked on a pizza stone or silicone mat.

Dough can be frozen for later use.

Favorite Orange Sugar Cookies

2/3 c. butter, softened
3/4 c. sugar
1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
1/2 tsp. grated orange
1 egg, beaten
4 tsp. milk
2 c. sifted all-purpose flour
1 1/2 tsp. baking powder
1/4 tsp. salt
Colored sugars (optional)

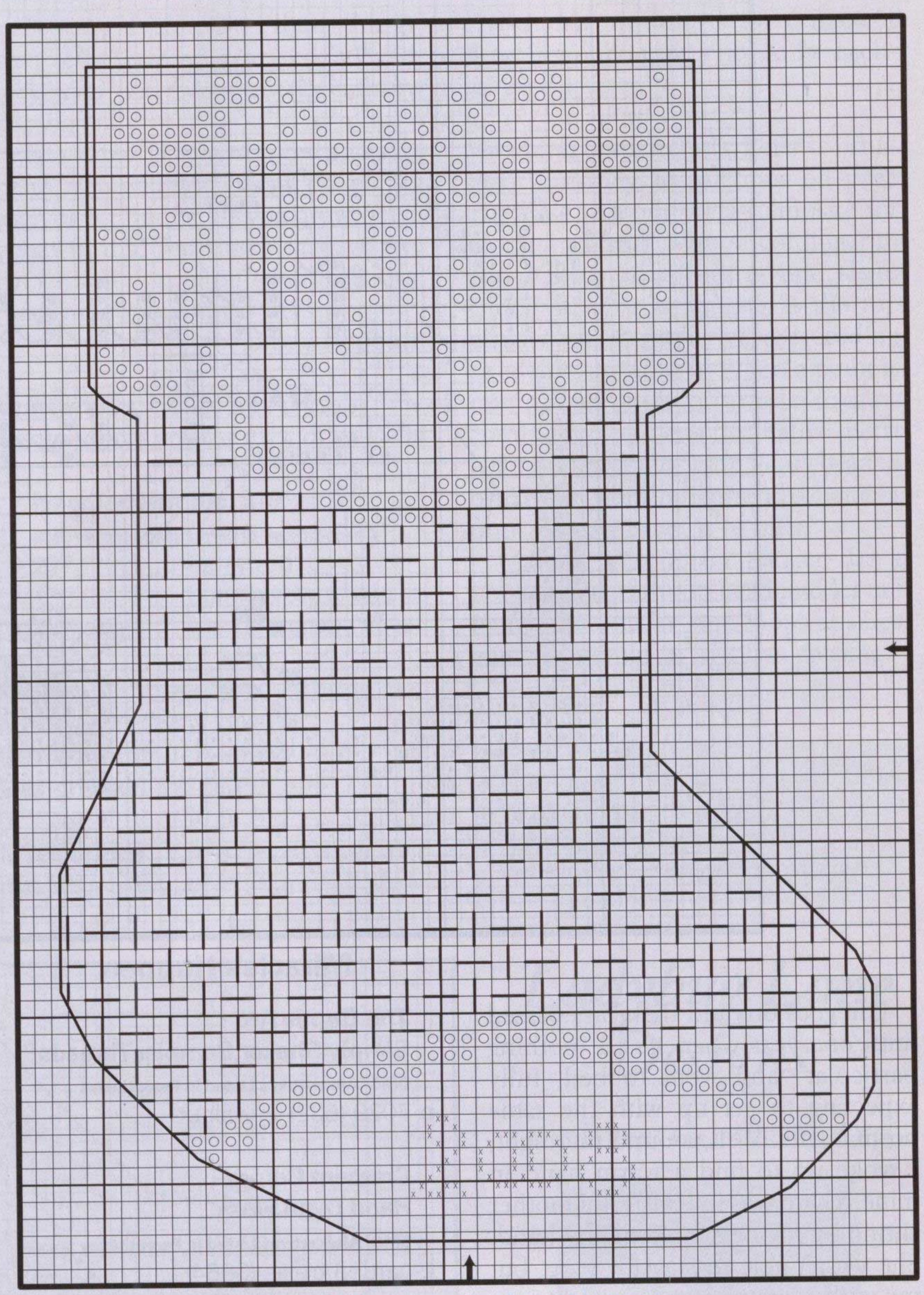
In a mixing bowl, beat together butter, sugar, vanilla, and orange zest, until creamy. Add egg; beat until light and fluffy. Add milk; beat to combine.

In a large bowl, combine flour, baking powder, and salt. Gradually add to butter mixture, mixing until incorporated. Handling dough as little as possible, divide dough into six balls. Wrap each ball in plastic wrap; chill in refrigerator for at least 4 hours.

Preheat oven to 375°. Butter a cookie sheet; set aside.

Work with 1/2 ball each time, leaving remaining dough in refrigerator. Roll dough out on a lightly floured surface, rolling to about 1/8" thick. Cut with a cookie cutter; place cookies on prepared cookie sheet. If desired, sprinkle with color sugars. Bake for 6–10 minutes, or until edges begin to brown.

Makes about 3 dozen cookies.



©2008 Legacy Designs

Quaker Darning Sock 2008

QUAKER DARNING SOCK 2008

Designed by Fran Colburn
of Legacy Designs

Fibers To Dye For Hand Dyed Silk Threads

Anchor® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

○ motive (44)
■ detective (861)

Fabric: Two 9" x 6" pieces 36-count dark cappuccino linen from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 71H x 49W
Design size: 4" x 2 3/4"

Instructions: Work double-running stitch for outline of stocking, using one strand of detective.

Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss. Cross stitch over

one thread where small symbols appear for date, using one strand of floss.

Work darning stitch for body of stocking, using one strand of motive and orienting stitch in the direction of the symbol.

Work double running stitch for outline of stocking on second piece of fabric, reversing the shape and using one strand of detective.

Finishing instructions: Following manufacturer's instructions, fuse a piece of lightweight interfacing to wrong side of both pieces of linen. Cut out stocking, leaving 1/4" seam allowance. Finger press seam allowance to wrong side; clip corners. Place front and back with wrong sides together. Using two strands Anchor® 861, lace together through running stitches, leaving top of stocking open. Fold top seam allowance to the inside and finger press along double-running outlines; secure seam allowance to interfacing with a drop of fabric glue. Cover seam with cording or ribbon, as desired. Twisted-cording hanger and trim made using Anchor® 861.

Legacy Designs
106 Farragut Way #248
Kennebunk, ME 04043
e-mail:
legacy_designs@roadrunner.com

Little by Little Design Co.

Cynthia Daly Bradford

As I write, it is springtime instead of Christmas. Spring is so beautiful right now, I decided to do something for the birds. I still wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2009.

Hummingbird Nectar

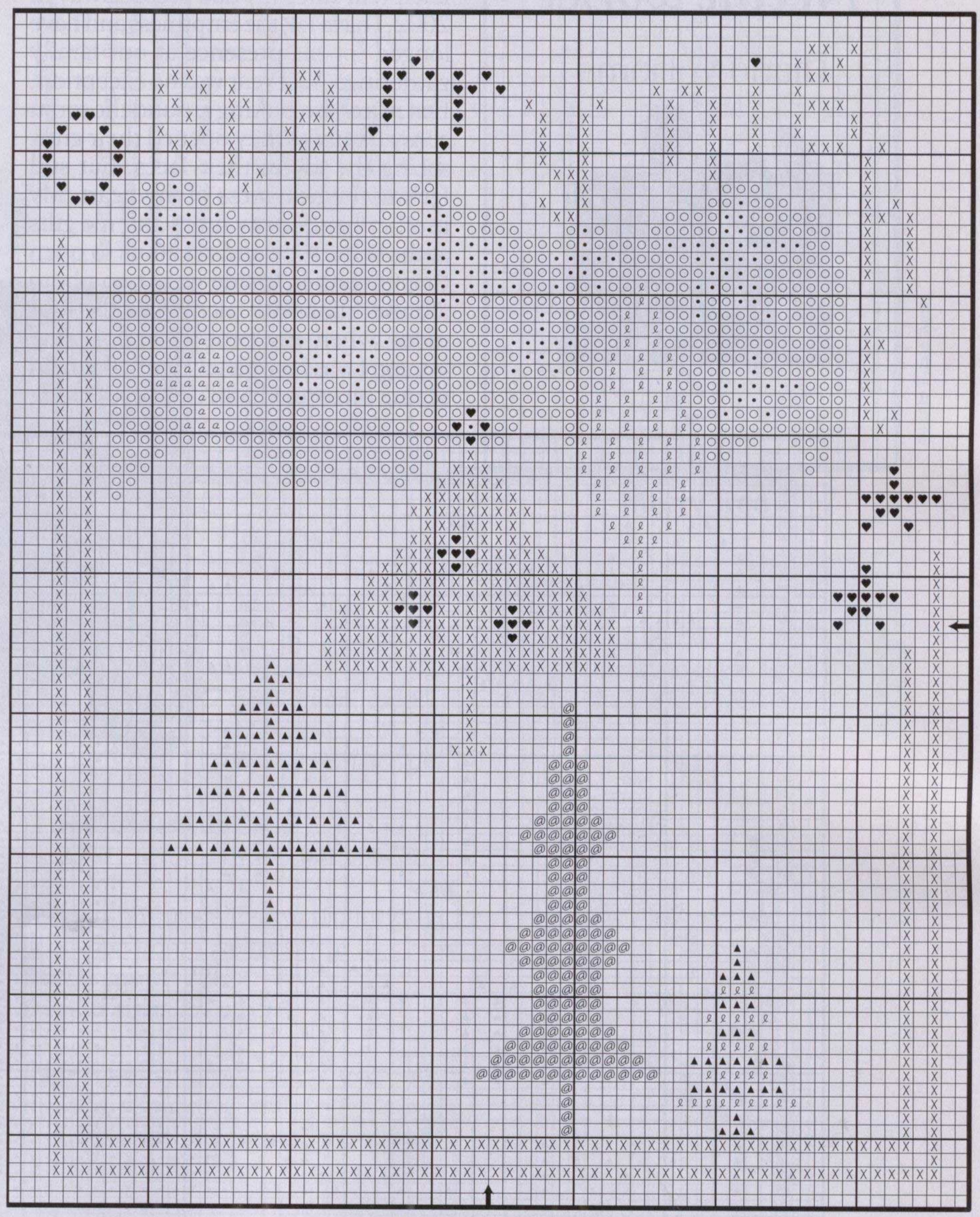
4 c. water
1 c. sugar

Wash hummingbird feeder; rinse well and set aside.

In a saucepan over medium heat, bring water to a boil. Boil for 1–2 minutes; add sugar. Stir together and bring back to a boil. Allow to boil until sugar has dissolved, stirring continuously. Remove from heat.

Allow nectar to cool to room temperature. Fill feeder; store remaining nectar in refrigerator until needed.

In the summer when temperatures reach the high 80s, the nectar must be changed in the hummingbird feeder twice a week (if the birds have left any in the feeder).



O Starry Night

O STARRY NIGHT

Designed by Cynthia Daly Bradford of Little by Little Design Co.

DMC®	Anchor®	
• blanc	2	white

©2008 Little by Little Design Co.

X	471	265	avocado green, vy. lt.
ℓ	733	280	olive green, med.
a	3348	264	yellow green, lt.
▲	3362	263	pine green, dk.
@	3363	262	pine green, med.

The Gentle Art
Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™

♥	7019 (347)	pomegranate
○	7044 (931)	dungarees

Fabric: 9" x 8" piece 35-count linen linen from Weeks Dye Works™
Stitch count: 81H x 64W
Design size: 4⅝" x 3¾"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Trim and hanger made using ¼"-wide ribbon.

Little by Little Design Co.
14610 Huntersville-Concord Road
Huntersville, NC 28078
e-mail: *cdaly4692@aol.com*
Web site: *littlebylittledesign.com*

Little House Needleworks

Diane Williams

The month of December can be a very happy time, but also a sad one if you are lonely or missing a loved one. Each year since my dad passed away in 2002, I have felt the emptiness and have longed for his presence at our family gatherings. Last year was no exception. I sat in a chair looking around the room at my family as they opened their gifts, seeing the joy in their faces, but still feeling the heaviness of my heart. My brother handed my mom and me gifts at the same time and asked us to open them together. Inside were two photo albums filled with pictures of the four of us when my brother and I were young. I was completely overwhelmed seeing pictures I hadn't laid eyes on for years. My brother had taken old slides and had them transferred to prints. It was a "lost-and-found" moment I will cherish always. Thanks, Jim.

GLORY TO GOD

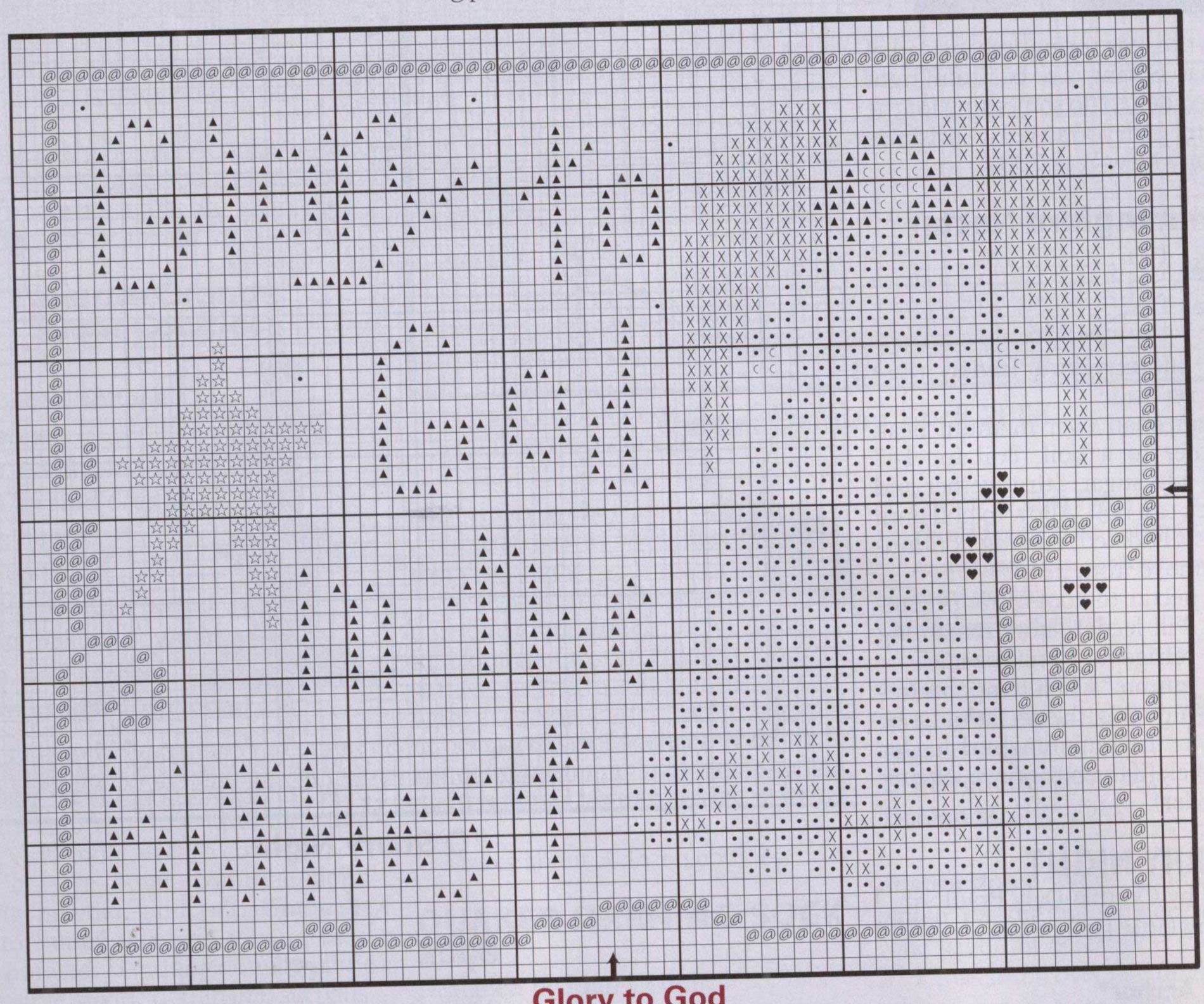
Designed by Diane Williams
of Little House Needleworks

DMC® Anchor®

☾	754	1012	peach, lt.
♥	815	44	garnet, med.

Crescent Colors
Hand Dyed Cotton Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X	garden trellis	(644)



©2008 Little House Needleworks

Glory to God

A kit is available for this project. Please go to www.just-crossstitch.com for details.

• antique lace (3033)
@ pea pod (730)
▲ brandied pears (434)

Kreinik Blending Filament
☆ 002HL gold, hi lustre

Fabric: 8" x 9" piece 32-count cinnamon roll Expressions linen from Silkweaver
Stitch count: 55H x 68W
Design size: 3½" x 4¼"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. When two colors are bracketed together, use one strand of floss and one strand of blending filament.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Model uses Weeks Dye Works™ kudzu (#2200) wool for backing. Twisted cording made using DMC® 937.

Little House Needleworks
3321 West Cinnamon Drive
Tucson, AZ 85741
e-mail: *littlehouseneedleworks@msn.com*
Web site:
www.littlehouseneedleworks.com

*Lizzie*Kate*

Linda Ebright

Baking is one of my favorite hobbies. I bake for all seasons and all occasions. It is relaxing, fun, and pretty cheap entertainment for me. And, it supplies me with lots of goodies to give to friends and family and have ready in the freezer at all times.

This sugar cookie recipe was shared with me many years ago by a friend. The lovely thing is that you can roll and bake this dough right after mixing—no refrigeration required! Or you can refrigerate the dough and bake later. This recipe fits every busy schedule. Grab your favorite cookie cutters, mix up some frosting, gather your sprinkles, and have fun!

Sugar Cookies

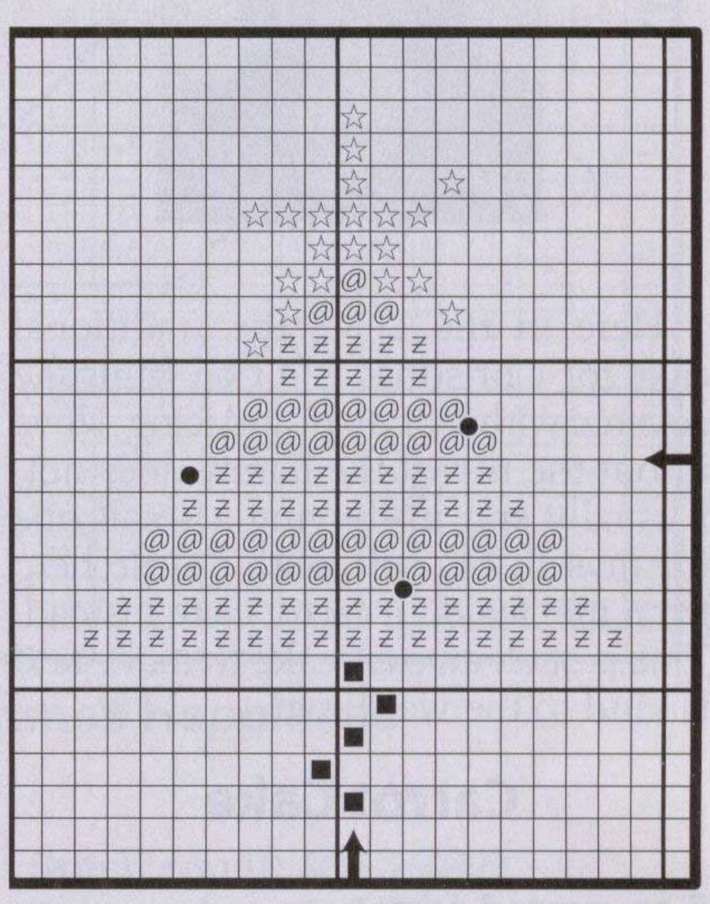
½ c. shortening or margarine
1 c. sugar
2 eggs
2½ c. all-purpose flour
½ tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. baking powder
½ tsp. salt
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 Tbsp. milk
Frosting (optional)

Preheat oven to 400°.

In a mixing bowl, beat together shortening or margarine and sugar until creamy. Add eggs; beat well. Add remaining ingredients, except frosting, and mix until combined.

Roll cookie dough to ¼" thick and cut with cookie cutters; place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake for 8–10 minutes, or until lightly brown. (**Note:** Cookie dough can also be saved for baking later. Cover dough and chill in refrigerator until ready to bake.)

Cool and frost cookies, if desired.



©2008 Lizzie*Kate

MERRY TREE

Designed by Linda Ebright of Lizzie*Kate

DMC® Anchor®

☆	3820	306	straw, dk.
≠	3347	266	yellow green, med.
@	3345	268	hunter green, dk.
■	898	380	coffee brown, vy. dk.

Lizzie*Kate Buttons

●	3820	tiny red buttons (3)

Fabric: 7" x 6" piece 19-count light mocha cork linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 22H x 17W
Design size: 2⅜" x 1⅞"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using four strands of floss.

Attach buttons, using two strands of coordinating floss.

Finishing instructions: Model was finished using a pre-finished red ornament from Stitch-A-Gift.

Merry Tree

Lizzie*Kate
2901 Oriole
Wichita, KS 67204
e-mail: *mail@lizziekate.com*
Web site: *www.lizziekate.com*

Loopylou Designs

Lynda Bodkin

Here in the U.K., the traditional cake for Christmas is a rich fruitcake covered with marzipan and icing. I love it, but the rest of the family does not. I usually end up buying a small one for myself. My son, with a little help from me, makes a carrot cake instead. This is such an easy cake to make and is kind to the waistline.

Carrot Cake

6 oz. grated carrot
8 oz. self-rising flour
6½ oz. sugar
1½ oz. chopped nuts
4 eggs
Several drops of vanilla essence
2 tsp. ground cinnamon
1½ tsp. ground ginger
8 oz. sunflower oil
½ tsp. baking powder

Frosting:
4 oz. butter, softened
6 oz. confectioners' sugar
1 Tbsp. lemon juice

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease and line an 8" x 8" baking pan.

In a large bowl, combine all cake ingredients; mix well. Pour into prepared pan. Bake for 30–35 minutes.

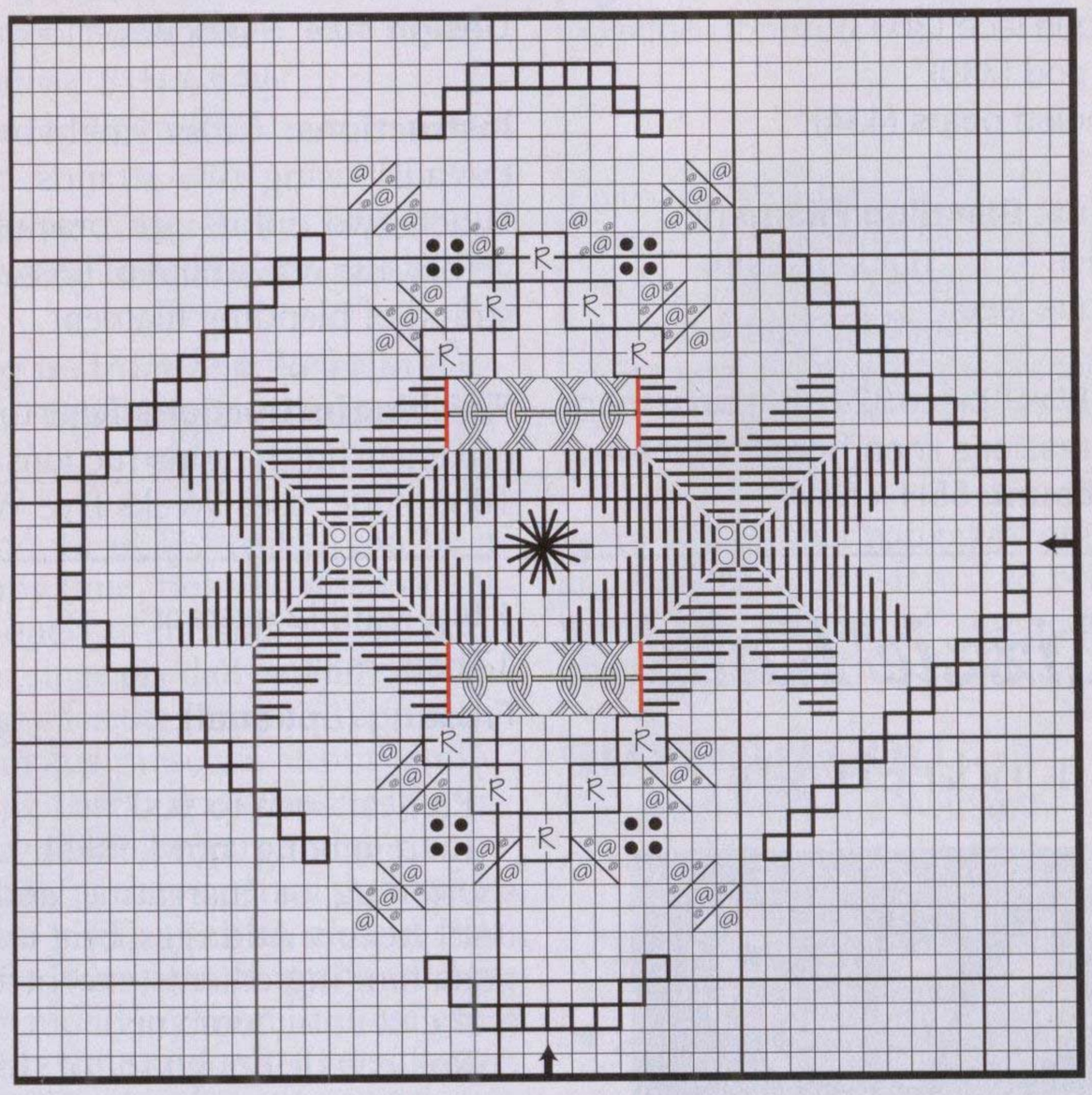
In a mixing bowl, combine frosting ingredients and beat until creamy. Spread over cooled cake.

CHRISTMAS STARS

Designed by Lynda Bodkin
of Loopylou Designs

DMC® Anchor® Pearl Cotton #8

R	712	926	cream (rice stitch)



Christmas Stars

DMC® Satin Floss

@	S909	emerald green

Kreinik Silk Mori™

	1116	Christmas red, dk.

Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4

	5005	gold coin

Mill Hill Petite Seed Beads

○	40557	gold

Fabric: 7" x 6" piece 28-count cream Cashel® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 22H x 17W
Design size: 2⅜" x 1⅞"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands S909. Work three-quarter cross stitches where small symbols appear, using two strands S909. (**Note:** Thin lines indicate stitch placement and are not to be backstitched.)

Work four-sided stitch for border, using one strand 5005.

Work horizontal and vertical satin stitch where heavy lines appear for flower petals, using one strand 712/926.

Work rice stitch over four threads, using one strand 712/926.

Work diamond-eyelet stitch over eight threads in center of ornament, using one strand 5005.

Work French knot where • appears, using two strands 1116 and wrapping floss around needle once.

Attach beads, using one strand of coordinating floss and a half cross stitch.

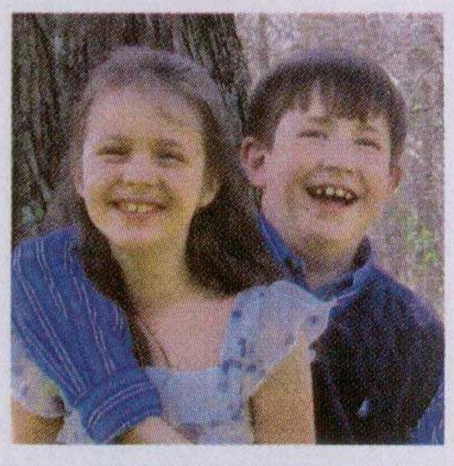
Using sharp embroidery scissors, cut six horizontal fabric threads where indicated by red lines on chart. Carefully remove fabric threads. Anchor one strand 5005 on right side of withdrawn-thread area, under adjacent satin stitches and on wrong side of stitched piece. Work twisted thread pairs, anchoring thread on opposite side of withdrawn-thread area.

Finishing instructions: Refer to ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Ornament lined with coordinating cotton fabric. Tassel made using DMC® 321. Hanger made using red ⅛"-wide silk ribbon.

Loopylou Designs
49 Walcourt Road
Kempston, Bedforshire MK42 8ST
United Kingdom
e-mail:
enquiries@loopyloudesigns.co.uk
Web site:
www.loopyloudesigns.co.uk

M Designs

Mary McLenon-Turley



This year has certainly gone by quickly. So much has happened since I wrote my last Christmas memory. We opened a needlework retail shop/teaching studio here in town, and it has been a wonderful experience. I've met many local (and not-so-local) stitchers and punchers and (rug) hookers, and I have enjoyed getting to know each of them and sharing in their latest projects. I am always pleasantly surprised by the instant camaraderie that occurs between my customers. As soon as someone walks in the door of the shop, they are part of a group; they readily admire the projects of others, show off their own work, and seek and offer advice. Many of our "regulars" have become friends.

This year's ornament is a bluebird—we are calling him the "Bluebird of Christmas Happiness." I plan to stitch several and give them, along with wishes for Christmas happiness, to my friends. I hope that you'll stitch him up as well.

The kids and I recently took a cake-decorating class. The class itself was fun, but the homework was really great. We had to practice frosting techniques with buttercream frosting. Yummy! This frosting works well on any flavor of cake. Just pick your favorite box cake and make cupcakes. Tint the frosting with paste food coloring and fill up several piping bags with different colors of frosting. Have an assortment of decorating tips on hand. Invite your friends and family to help decorate the cupcakes and watch their inner artists come out. The best thing is that when they are finished, they get to eat their artwork.

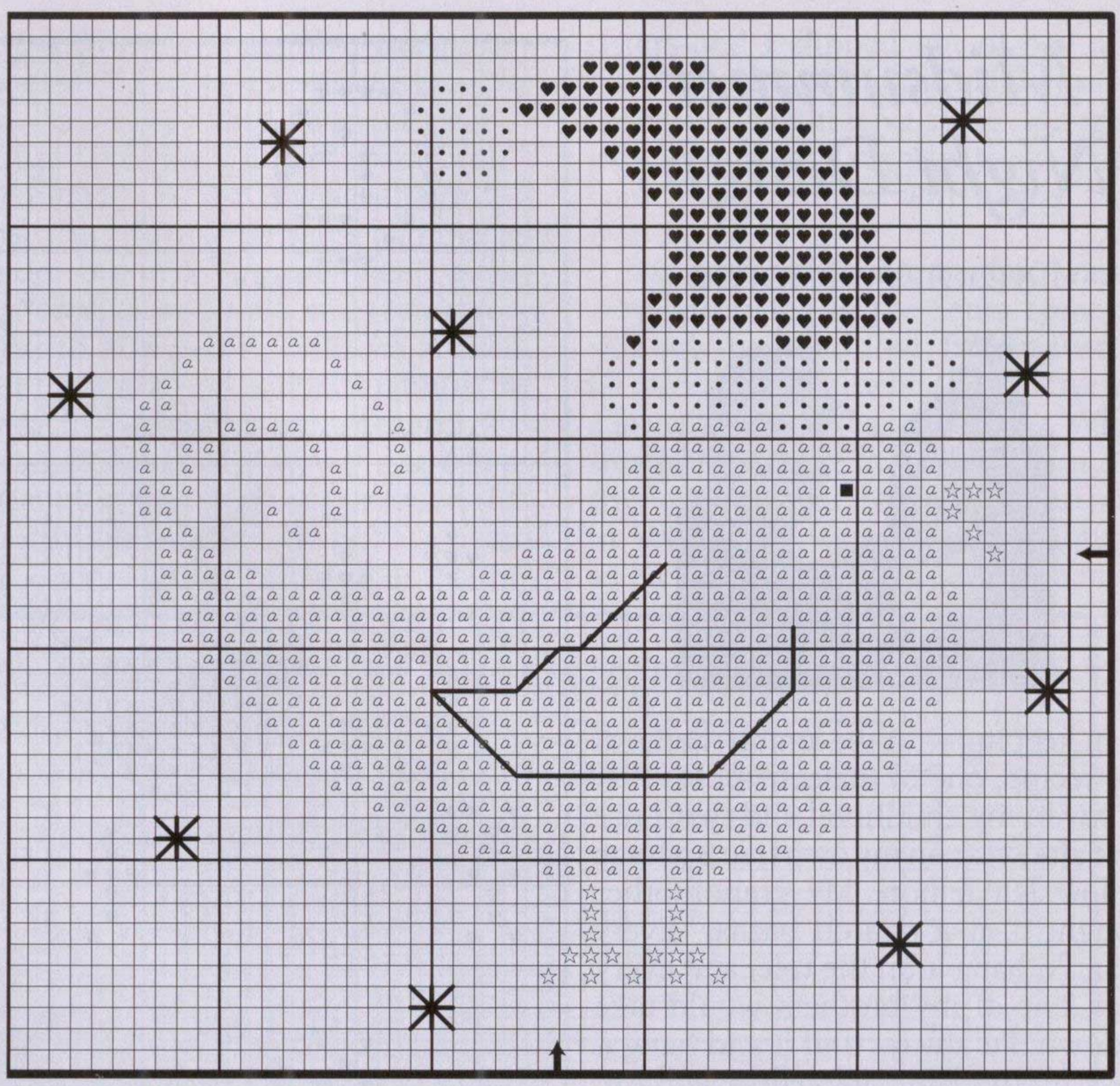
From all of us at M Designs, have a Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Best Buttercream Frosting

6 c. confectioners' sugar
1⅓ c. butter, softened
4 Tbsp. milk
3 tsp. vanilla extract

In a mixing bowl, beat together confectioners' sugar and butter until creamy. Add milk and vanilla; mix for two minutes, or until creamy. Frosting should be stiff to work in the piping bags. You may need to add a few additional drops of milk if it is too stiff.

Frosting can be made ahead and stored in the refrigerator for two weeks.



©2008 M Designs

Bluebird of Christmas Happiness

BLUEBIRD OF CHRISTMAS HAPPINESS

Designed by Mary McLenon-Turley of M Designs

	DMC®	Anchor®	
■	310	403	black
a	597	1064	turquoise
☆	728	307	topaz
♥	817	13	coral red, vy. dk.
	3808	1068	turquoise, ul. vy. dk.
	B5200	1	snow white

Rainbow Gallery Wisper

[	W99	white
[	B5200 DMC®	snow white

Just Another Button Company™

4447.S	small holly

Fabric: 7" x 7" piece 32-count crystal icon linen from Picture This Plus

Stitch count: 46H x 48W
Design size: 2⅞" x 3"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. When two colors are bracketed together, use one strand of floss and one strand of Wisper.

Backstitch over two threads, using two strands 3808/1068.

Work Smyrna cross stitch over four threads, using two strands B5200/1.

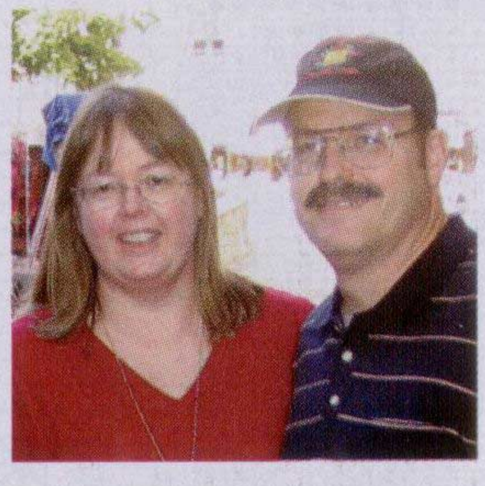
Attach button, using one strand 597/1064 and referring to photo for placement.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Trim made using red rick rack. Hanger made by threading Mill Hill® #62013 red frosted seed beads onto floss.

M Designs
1489 Sparta Highway
Crossville, TN 38572
e-mail: *mary@m–designs.com*
Web site: *www.m–designs.com*

Midsummer Night Designs

Deborah Thorpe



In keeping with the lemon theme of my recipe, one of the ornaments that survived my childhood and that I use year after year on my own tree is a huge yellow felt lemon. My grandmother bought it at a church bazaar. Every year, I'd hang it on the tree, and every year, one of my brothers would take it down. I'd always find it and hang it back up. It's large, it's yellow, and did I mention it has sequins stuck all over it? As a child, I loved that ornament—maybe because it was handmade and the sequins gave it quite a bit of glitter. I suppose "gaudy" is the word that would best describe it. It has happy memories for me, and I still love it.

This pound cake is especially good with a little vanilla ice cream.

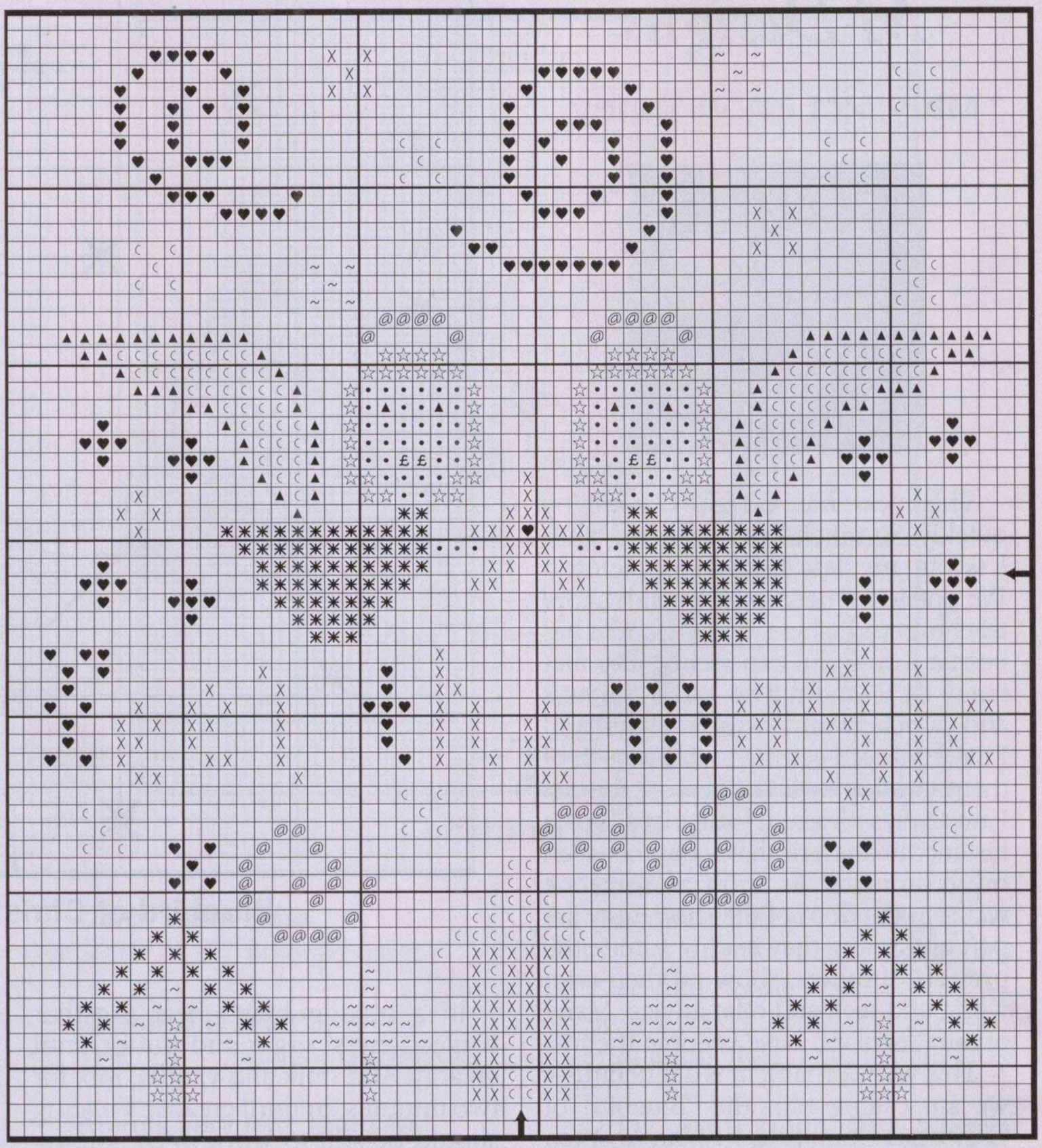
Sour Cream Lemon Pound Cake

1 c. butter, softened
3 c. sugar
6 eggs
3 c. all-purpose flour
1/2 tsp. baking powder
1/4 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
1 tsp. lemon extract
1 (8-oz.) pkg. sour cream
Confectioners' sugar for dusting

Preheat oven to 325°. Grease and flour a tube pan; set aside.

In a mixing bowl, beat butter, sugar, and eggs until creamy. Add flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, and lemon extract; mix well. Fold in sour cream.

Pour in prepared pan. Bake for 1 hour and 20 minutes. Remove from oven and allow to cool for five minutes. Remove from pan and cool on a wire rack. Sprinkle with confectioner's sugar and serve.



©2008 Midsummer Night Designs

Feel the Magic

FEEL THE MAGIC

Designed by Deborah Thorpe of Midsummer Night Designs

	DMC®	Anchor®	
@	318	235	steel gray, lt.
▲	414	235	steel gray, dk.
☾	415	398	pearl gray
✳	470	266	avocado green, lt.
~	471	265	avocado green, vy. lt.
X	554	95	violet, lt.
☆	680	901	old gold, dk.
£	961	76	dusty rose, dk.
•	3779	868	terra cotta, ul. vy. lt.
	552	99	violet, med.

Access Commodities Accentuate

♥[	016	violet
♥[	552 DMC®	violet, med.

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count bittersweet linen from Lakeside Linens & Designs

Stitch count: 60H x 54W
Design size: 3 3/4" x 3 3/8"

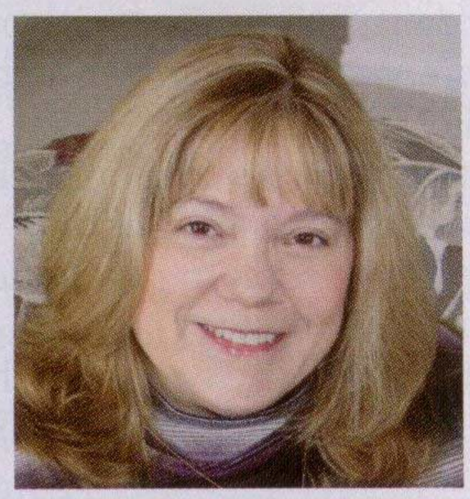
Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. When two colors are bracketed together, use two strands of floss and one strand of Accentuate.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Trim made using purchased cording. Bow made using 1 1/2"-wide sheer purple ribbon.

Midsummer Night Designs
9711 North Camino del Fierro
Tucson, AZ 85742
e-mail: *dsthorpe@comcast.net*
Web site:
www.midsummernightdesigns.com

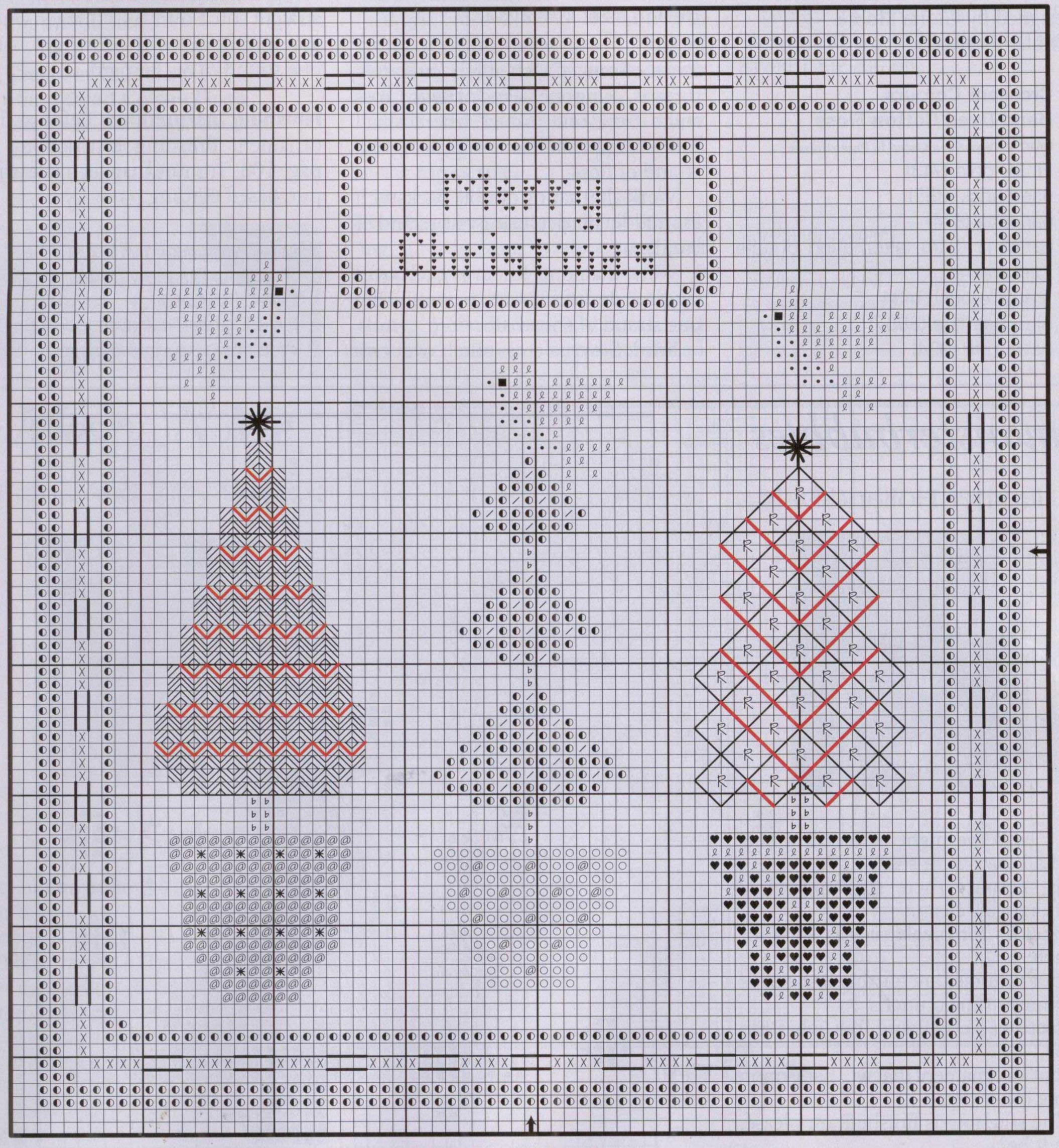
Milady's Needle

Gloria Moore



I will always remember the excitement of Christmas Eve as I was growing up. Santa was very generous at our house. My two younger sisters and I were always excited to wake up first and rush out to see what Santa had placed under our tree. I remember putting out cookies and milk and trying very hard to stay awake until he arrived. But I was not very successful until one particular Christmas Eve when I was around 6 years old. We went to bed as usual, but this evening it seemed that shortly after we were in bed we heard the door bell ring. I remember that my sisters and I slipped out of bed and poked our heads out the hallway door to see who might have come calling so late. Imagine our surprise to see Santa come into the house with a large sack over his back.

We didn't have a chimney, so it wasn't very surprising to see Santa come in through the front door; but we were a bit puzzled that the white beard covered a face that seemed a bit familiar. What was even stranger was that my mom was laughing when she welcomed him in. Wide-eyed, we watched a bit longer as he unloaded his sack. And then as



©2008 Milady's Needle

Christmas Tree Farm

A kit is available for this project. Please go to www.just-crossstitch.com for details.

he turned to leave, we saw him kiss my mother and walk out the door. You can imagine that at six, five, and four, respectively, my sisters and I were a bit confused; but I pointed out to the other two that we hadn't seen Dad while Santa was around and just what did that mean anyway! I don't think we solved the mystery that night, and Dad did slip into our rooms to tuck us in just a few minutes later. I will always remember that I saw my mom kissing Santa Claus.

CHRISTMAS TREE FARM

Designed by Gloria Moore
of Milady's Needle

Crescent Colours
Hand Dyed Cotton Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

- • Finley gold (743)
- ○ used brick (355)
- ♥ bandana (814)
- X bandana (814) (alternating double backstitch)
- ♭ bramble bush (434)
- ℓ blue Beatrice (3807)
- @ balsam fir (934)
- ℟ balsam fir (934) (ray stitch variation)
- ◐ Erin go emerald (500)
- / wild berries (221)
- ✳ St. Bernard (926) (Smyrna cross stitch)
  snowball (blanc)

DMC® Anchor®

- ■ 310 403 black (Smyrna cross stitch)

Fabric: 9" x 8" 40-count vintage tundra linen from Lakeside Linens & Designs
Stitch count: 82H x 75W
Design size: 4 1/8" x 3 3/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear for lettering, using one strand of floss.

Work alternating double backstitch for middle border, using one strand of bandana.

Work diamond Rhodes stitch over six threads for stars atop trees, using one strand of snowball.

Work Smyrna cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of St. Bernard.

Work cashmere stitch over six threads for tree on left, using one strand of bandana. (**Note:** Top and bottom rows are worked over two and four threads.)

Work ray stitch variation over eight threads, using one strand of floss. (**Note:** Begin stitching at bottom of tree and work upward.)

Work straight stitch over two threads where red lines appear on tree on left, using one strand of snowball. Work straight stitch over four threads where gray lines appear on tree on right, using one strand of St. Bernard.

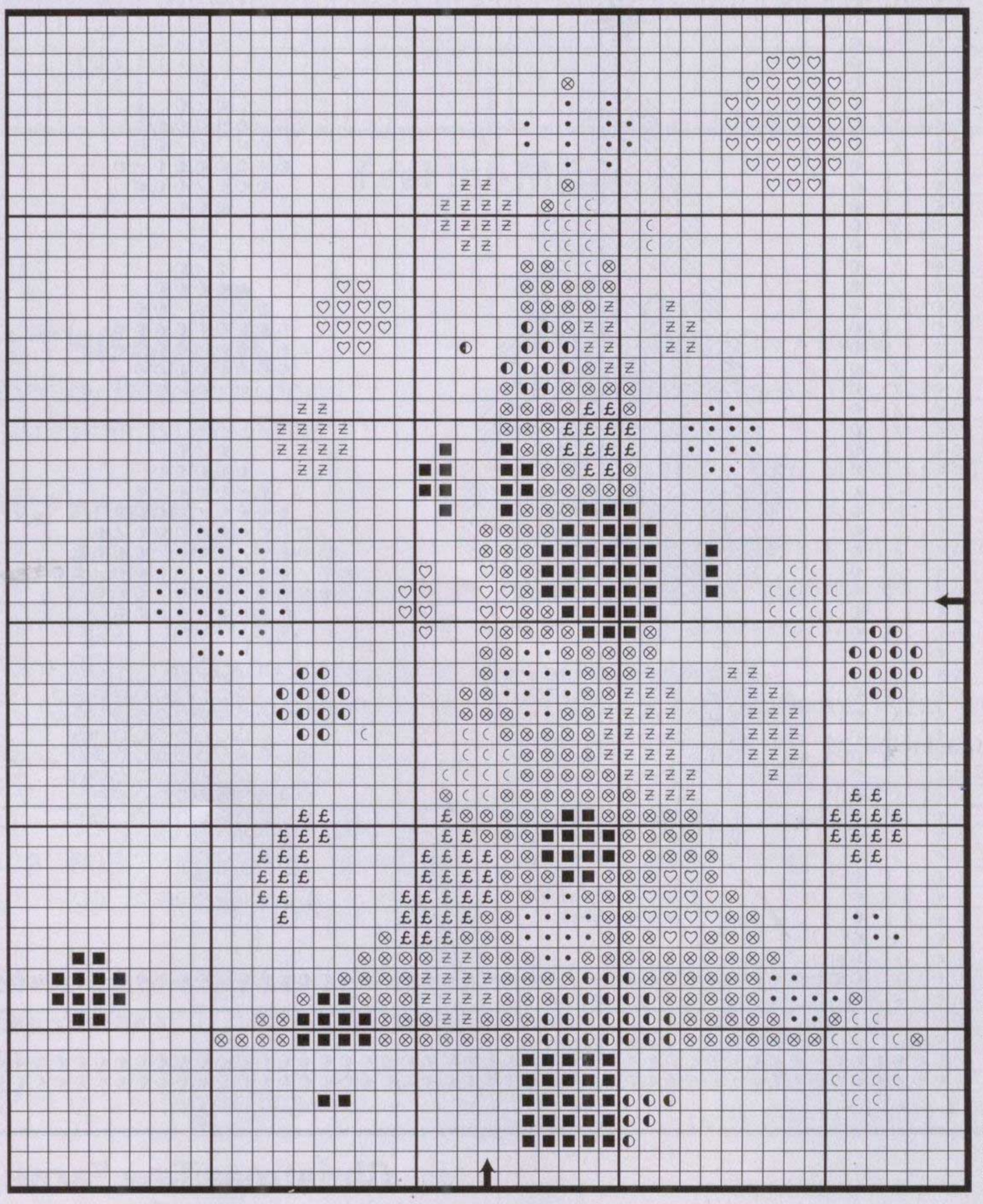
Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Trim and hanger made using purchased cording.

Milady's Needle
1510 Briar Meadow Drive
Keller, TX 76248
e-mail: *gloria@miladysneedle.com*
Web site: *www.miladysneedle.com*

monsterbubbles

Heather Holland-Daly

'Twas the night before deadline, and all that we've seen,
is mommy there stitching while nothing gets clean.
Pickles for breakfast and soda for lunch;
our tummies are hurting because of mommy's time crunch.
Her needle is flying, but what can it be,
but an ornament that will hang upon some other tree.
The stitching is finished, oh please, can it be?
But no, there she goes, it is something to see.



©2008 monsterbubbles

dottie

The hole punch comes out, now what does this mean?

Empty holes on the ornament that was so nice and clean?

The thread now goes flying, has she lost her head?

Now, colors appear! There is green, blue and red.

It's jolly, it's fun, it's really quite a sight.

Here is hoping that we will have dinner tonight!

DOTTIE

Designed by Heather Holland-Daly of monsterbubbles

Crescent Colours Hand Dyed Cotton Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

⊗ jolly holly (703)
• lemon lime (165)
☾ key largo (993)

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

£ 0270 (498) tutti frutti
≠ 0191 (906) kiwi
♡ 0790 (3806) bubble gum

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Sampler Threads

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

◐ 7052 (498) schoolhouse red
■ 7043 (3031) cinders

Fabric: 8" x 6" piece 20-count waste canvas from Norden Crafts Ltd.
8" x 6" piece 80 ct. copper mesh
Stitch count: 82H x 75W
Design size: 4 1/8" x 3 3/4"

Instructions: Baste waste canvas and copper mesh together around edges.

Work cross stitch over one waste canvas thread, using two strands of floss and sewing through waste canvas and copper mesh.

If desired, add a star-shaped silver spacer bead and a 3mm sterling ball at the top of tree.

Finishing instructions: Remove basting threads from waste canvas and copper mesh.

Following manufacturer's instructions, moisten waste canvas and carefully remove each canvas thread with tweezers.

Model was embellished by using various-sized hole punches to create holes in copper mesh around sides and bottom of stitched design. Secure the edges of each hole by working small satin stitches around the edge of each hole.

Trim copper mesh to desired size, leaving 1 1/2" free above top of Christmas tree. Fold under top of mesh by 1/2". Using two strands of jolly holly, work satin stitches around sides and bottom of ornament to finish rough edges.

Hanger and bows made from The Thread Gatherer #SF181 golden pines Savoir Faire ribbon.

monsterbubbles
22 Kenn Drive
Belleville, IL 62226-4902
e-mail: *heather@monsterbubbles.com*
Web site: *www.monsterbubbles.com*

Mosey 'N Me

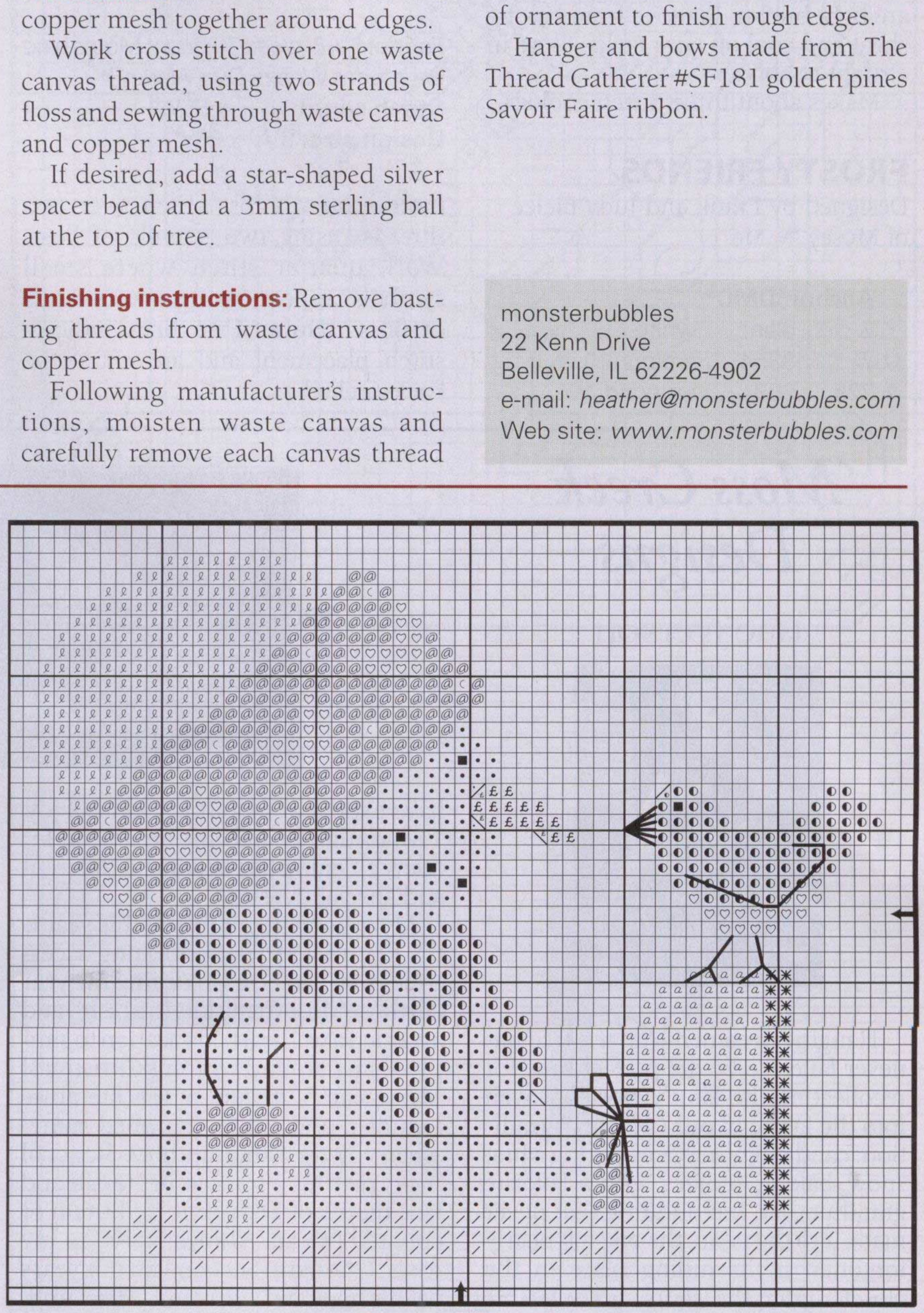
Frank and Judy Bielec

Sugar Cookies

1 c. butter, softened
1 c. sugar
2 eggs
1 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
3 3/4 c. all-purpose flour
2 tsp. baking powder
1/4 c. heavy whipping cream
1/2 c. colored sugar (optional)

In a mixing bowl, beat together butter and sugar until creamy. Add eggs and vanilla.

In a medium bowl, sift together flour



Frosty Friends

©2008 Mosey 'N Me

and baking powder. Add to butter mixture, alternating with heavy cream. Cover dough and chill for 2–3 hours, or until firm.

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease a cookie sheet or line with a silicone mat; set aside.

On a lightly floured surface, roll out dough to 1/4" thickness. Cut into desired shapes with cookie cutters. Place cookies 1" apart on prepared cookie sheets. Sprinkle with colored sugar, if desired. Bake for 12–14 minutes, or until bottoms and edges of cookies are light brown. Remove from baking sheet and cool on wire racks. Store in airtight container.

Makes about three dozen cookies.

FROSTY FRIENDS

Designed by Frank and Judy Bielec of Mosey 'N Me

Anchor®	DMC®	
• 2	blanc	white
♡ 74	3354	antique rose, lt.
@ 225	703	emerald, lt.
■ 236	3799	charcoal gray, dk. (modified Smyrna cross stitch)
ℓ 241	164	grass green
☾ 301	744	citrus
⍺ 368	3064	spice, med. lt.
✳ 374	435	desert, med. dk.
◐ 977	334	sea blue, med.
£ 1003	922	amberglow

Kreinik Ombre Metallic Thread

⁄ 3200	solid pearl (half cross stitch)

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 30-count Morris blue linen from Weeks Dye Works™
Stitch count: 47H x 55W
Design size: 3 1/4" x 3 2/3"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Work quarter stitch where small symbols appear, using two strands of floss. (**Note:** Thin lines indicate stitch placement and are not to be backstitched.)

Work half cross stitch over two threads, using one strand 3200.

Backstitch over two threads, using one stand 236/3799.

Work modified Smyrna cross stitch over two threads, using two strands 236/3799.

Work straight stitch where heavy lines appear for bird's beak, using two strands 301/744.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Hanger made using Anchor® 2.

Mosey 'N Me
1436 Baird Avenue
Katy, TX 77493
e-mail: *moseynme2000@aol.com*
Web site: *www.moseynme.com*

Moss Creek Designs

Rae Iverson

Hanging ornaments on the tree has never failed to be the perfect time for recollecting the family stories woven into the fabric of our Christmas tradition: candlelight services during a first snow, baking cookies with a favorite grandmother, the pudding that never made it to the table, the one gift nearly forgotten in its hiding place in the closet under the stairs, unforgetable gifts given and received.

As a designer, researching the origins of the Christmas tree, why we hang wreaths, and how my family's British and Scandinavian roots have added unique style and color to the season, I have experienced another kind of joy. Turning the research into ornaments for many to enjoy has become a different and special treasure.

My ornament gift to you this year is the first in a series of stitching accessories that can be used during the year (all those Moss Creek kits to finish!) and awarded a well-earned vacation to simply "hang around" during Christmas! My research, begun as the literature I studied and adore, morphed somewhere along some author's fictional rocky path into "translating" textile and lace motifs of 18th-century Britain to counted thread. Always drawn to my roots, I started in Scotland for this year's needle book and Christmas verse. And, who knows, with a scissors sheath, emery, and pin disk yet to come, I may stay along her windswept coast cliffs, dwell with ancestors for a few years to explore the wildflowers, wander through museums, taste a pudding or two, and read a bit more of Bobbie Burns.

Every day, every season, may you go forth in splendor.

GO FORTH IN SPLENDOR AND LIGHT

Designed by Rae Iverson
of Moss Creek Designs

Needlepoint Inc. Silk Floss

Anchor® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

■ 715 (897)	Bordeaux, dk.
• 715 (897)	Bordeaux, dk. (queen stitch)
♥ 714 (896)	Bordeaux, med. dk.
# 714 (896)	Bordeaux, med. dk. (queen stitch)

a	712 (1027)	Bordeaux, med. lt.
~	712 (1027)	Bordeaux, med. lt. (queen stitch)
X	293 (860)	old English, lt.
	296 (862)	old English, dk.
	763 (323)	sable brown, lt.

Fabric: 9" x 12" piece 32-count vintage country mocha Belfast® linen from Zweigart®

Stitch count: 57H x 120W

Design size: 3 5/8" x 7 1/2"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear for lettering, using one strand of floss.

Work double-running stitch or backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work running stich over two threads where dashed lines appear in uppermost tip of flower, using one strand 712.

Work long stitch where heavy vertical lines appear in flower center, using one strand 296. Work cross stitch over two threads (gray lines) to couch down long stitches, using one strand 763.

Work queen stitch over four threads, using one strand of floss. (**Note:** Outline indicates stitch placement only and is not to be backstitched.)

Work alternating diagonal stitches over two threads for center stem, using one strand 296.

Work broad chain stitch over two threads for outermost border and center fold line, using one strand 715.

Cross stitch over one thread to personalize back of needle book where indicated on chart, using one strand 896 and a favorite cross-stitch alphabet.

Double-running stitch/backstitch instructions:

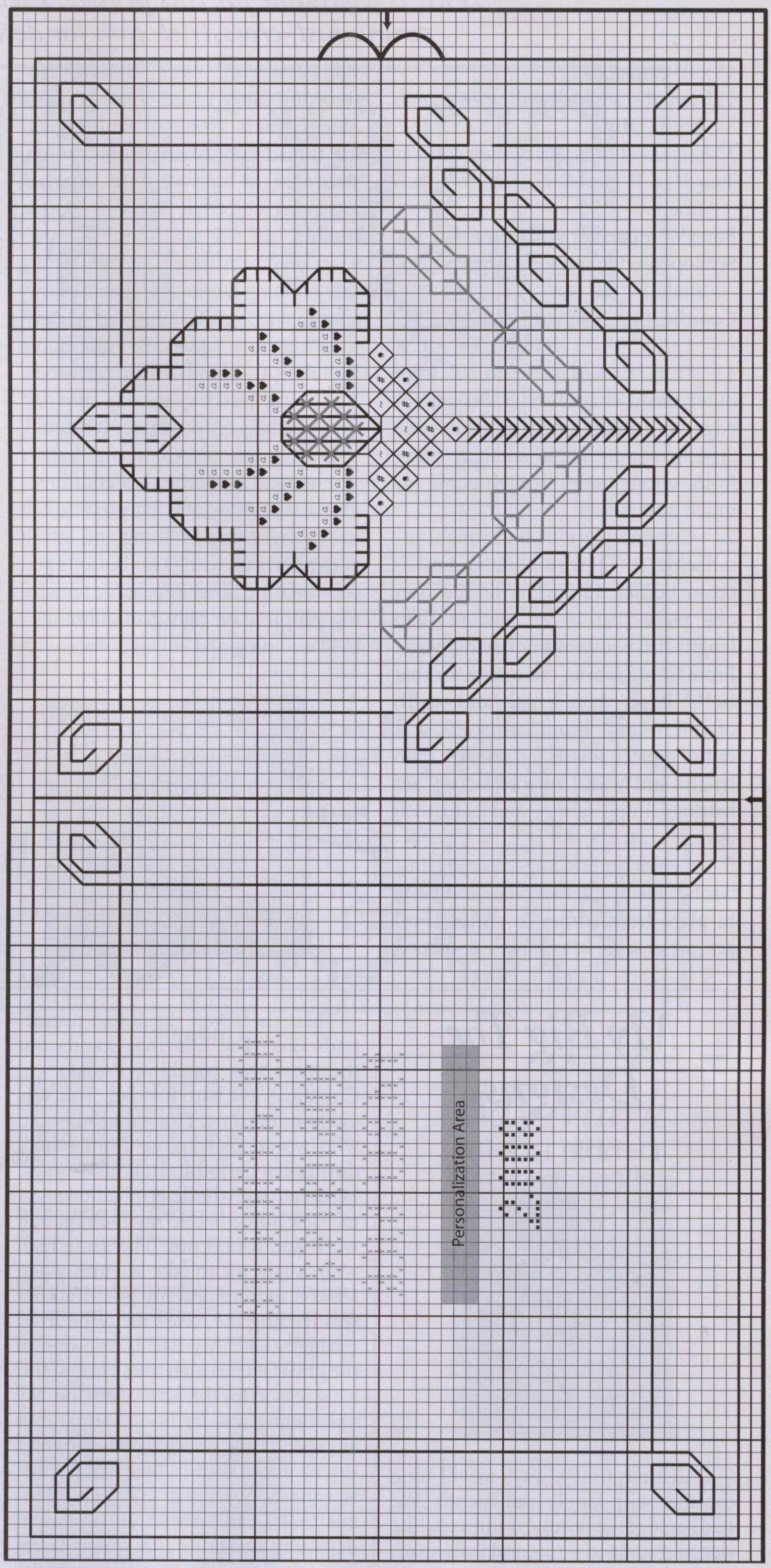
763	interior border with corner leaf curls
715	flower outline
296	bottom leaves, outline of flower center
293	upper leaves (gray lines)

Finishing materials and instructions:

4" x 8" piece coordinating lining fabric (Model uses dark burgundy silk dupioni.)

4" x 8" piece medium-weight, non-woven interfacing

4" x 8" piece Warm & Natural® batting



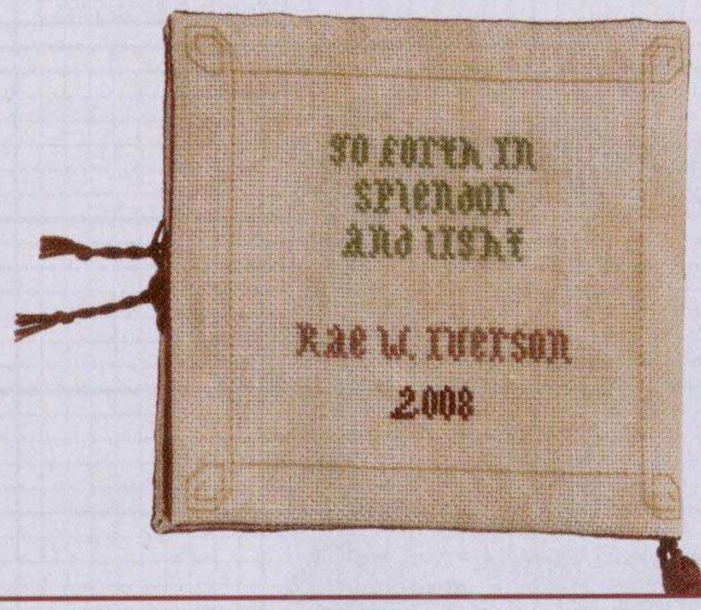
Go Forth in Splendor and Light

©2008 Moss Creek Designs

A kit is available for this project. Please go to www.just-crossstitch.com for details.

4" x 8" cardstock
12" length twisted cording to match lining fabric
3"-long tassel to match twisted cording
Two 3" x 3" pieces wool felt to match linen
Four 1/8"-diameter ivory buttons
Scalloped-edge pinking shears (optional)
Coordinating sewing thread

1. Trim stitched piece to 1/2" from outer broad-chain border. Secure cut edge with nun's stitch or a machine zig-zag stitch. Press stitched piece from wrong side, straightening as much as possible.
2. Cut one piece of lightweight interfacing to fit within outer broad-chain border. From batting, cut out one piece that is 1/2" smaller than length and width of interfacing piece. From lining fabric, cut one piece that is 1/2" larger than length and width of interfacing. From cardstock, cut out one piece that is 1/4" smaller than length and width of interfacing. Set batting, lining fabric, and cardstock aside.
3. Center interfacing piece against wrong side of stitched piece and baste in place from corner to corner. Finger press seam allowances to wrong side of stitched piece, creasing fabric along outer broad-chain borders. Miter corners. Using a length of sewing thread and a herringbone stitch, secure seam allowance to interfacing along cut edge. Remove basting stitches.
4. Center cardstock against wrong side of lining fabric. Press seam allowance to wrong side along edge of cardstock. Remove cardstock from lining. Set lining aside and discard cardstock.
5. Using pinking shears, trim 1/4" from all sides of felt pieces. If desired, embellish felt pieces, using feather stitches and one strand of coordinating floss. Center one felt piece to left half of right side of lining and attach at top corners, using two buttons and coordinating floss. Repeat for remaining felt piece on right half of lining.
6. Place lining and stitched piece with wrong sides together and batting layered in between, making sure felt pieces and stitched piece are oriented correctly. Using coordinating sewing thread and a sharp needle, blind stitch lining to stitched piece, beginning at bottom middle (center broad-chain line). Batting piece should be completely concealed by lining. Insert tail of tassel between lining and stitched piece at center broad-chain line before completing blind stitching and catch tail in stitches. Fold needle book in half along center broad-chain line.
7. Work twin buttonhole loops on center-right edge of front cover, where indicated by curved lines on chart. (Throw four long stitches for each loop, working buttonhole stitch over all four threads together. Refer to stitch illustration on page 116.) Fold twisted-cording length in half. Tack twisted cording to center-right edge of back cover. Thread twisted-cording tails through buttonhole loops and tie in a bow to secure book closed.



Moss Creek Designs
Post Office Box 7066
Cave Creek, AZ 85327-7066
e-mail: *info@mosscreekdesigns.com*
Web site:
www.mosscreekdesigns.com

My Big Toe Designs

Debbie Booth

Christmas time always meant time together with family and friends. We had some of the normal traditions, like sleeping under the tree and waking up the house with songs on the piano.

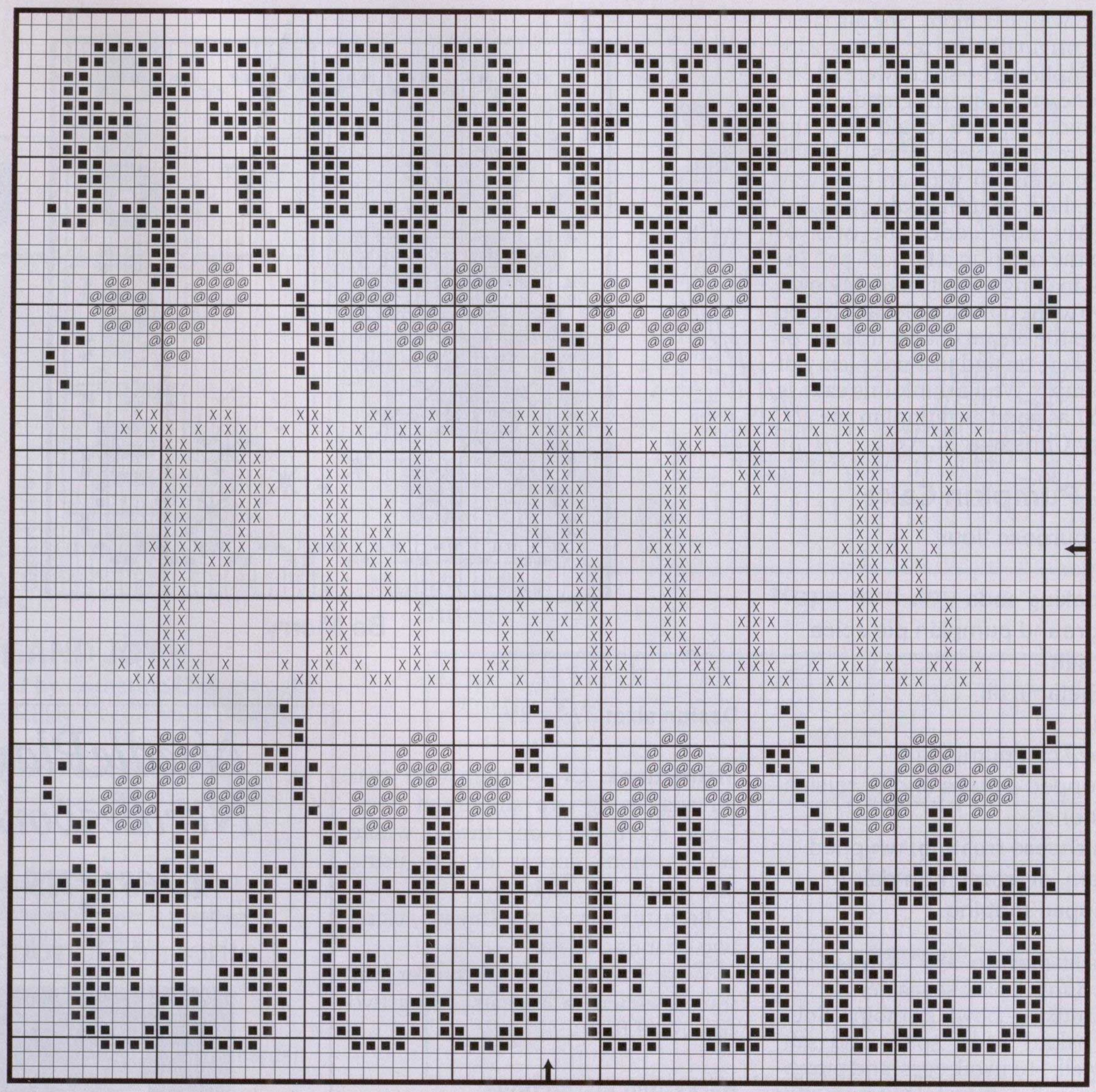
Then, there were the not-so-normal traditions. The one that stands out the most was watching *Predator* on Christmas Eve with my dad. This was our bonding time. This is the same man who would pick us up from school during first period and take us to Magic Mountain with the determination to get us back home before my mom got off work and found out. The same man who taught me to fake seizures when I was a toddler and my grandmother was feeding me. (He's lucky he lived through that!) My dad is also one of the greatest Christian men I know and a big reason for the path of my life. My upbringing was far from normal, but as I spend time with my own daughter (in the photo above), I see that normal is entirely overrated. It's quite obvious that I can't design an ornament depicting a creature that shoots lasers in a jungle, so I went the opposite direction. I spent years searching for peace in my life, and it is here now as an unconditional love found through my faith, family, and friends.

Merry Christmas and many blessings to you all—I wish you peace.

Chocolate Silk Pie

1 (16 oz.) pkg. silken tofu, drained
1 (1-oz.) pkg. hot chocolate drink mix
1 Tbsp. honey
1 (12-oz.) pkg. semisweet chocolate morsels
1 prepared chocolate cookie crust or chocolate graham cracker crust
Cookie crumbs or nuts (optional)

In a blender, combine tofu, hot chocolate mix, and honey; blend until smooth.



©2008 My Big Toe Designs

Peace

In a microwave-safe bowl, melt chocolate chips in the microwave on High for 30-second intervals, stirring after each. Once chocolate is melted, add to blender and blend until smooth.

Pour mixture into crust. Sprinkle on cookie crumbs or nuts, if desired.

Cover pie, and refrigerate for 2–3 hours, or until set.

PEACE

Designed by Debbie Booth
of My Big Toe Designs

Weeks Dye Works™
Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

@	1323 (315)	cranberry ice
■	2159 (520)	seaweed
X	2104 (803)	deep sea

Fabric: 7" x 7" piece 36-count flax Edinburgh® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 69H x 69W
Design size: 3 7/8" x 3 7/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strand of floss.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Trim made using purchased cording. Hanger made using coordinating 3/8"-wide ribbon.

My Big Toe Designs
4304 South Cimarron Avenue
Boise, ID 83709
e-mail: *sales@mybigtoedesigns.com*
Web site:
www.mybigtoedesigns.com

My Mark

Monique Keylon

I remember the smell of this cake baking when I was a little girl. And when I was older, I remember helping my mom make the cake as a favorite Christmas dessert. My mom told me that my grandmother used to make

this cake with her mom. She also told me that, originally, this recipe was a lot more complicated—spices were added one by one, etc.—but my grandmother discovered that you could buy the spices already mixed. (She's also the one who came up with an easy way to make the cake using only one large bowl.) My mom added the twist of putting the batter in a Bundt® pan instead of making a layer cake. My own addition to the now-simple cake recipe is to skip the cream cheese frosting or whipped cream and just use plenty of Cool Whip®. We all think this cake is every bit as good as pumpkin pie.

Merry Christmas!

Pumpkin Cake

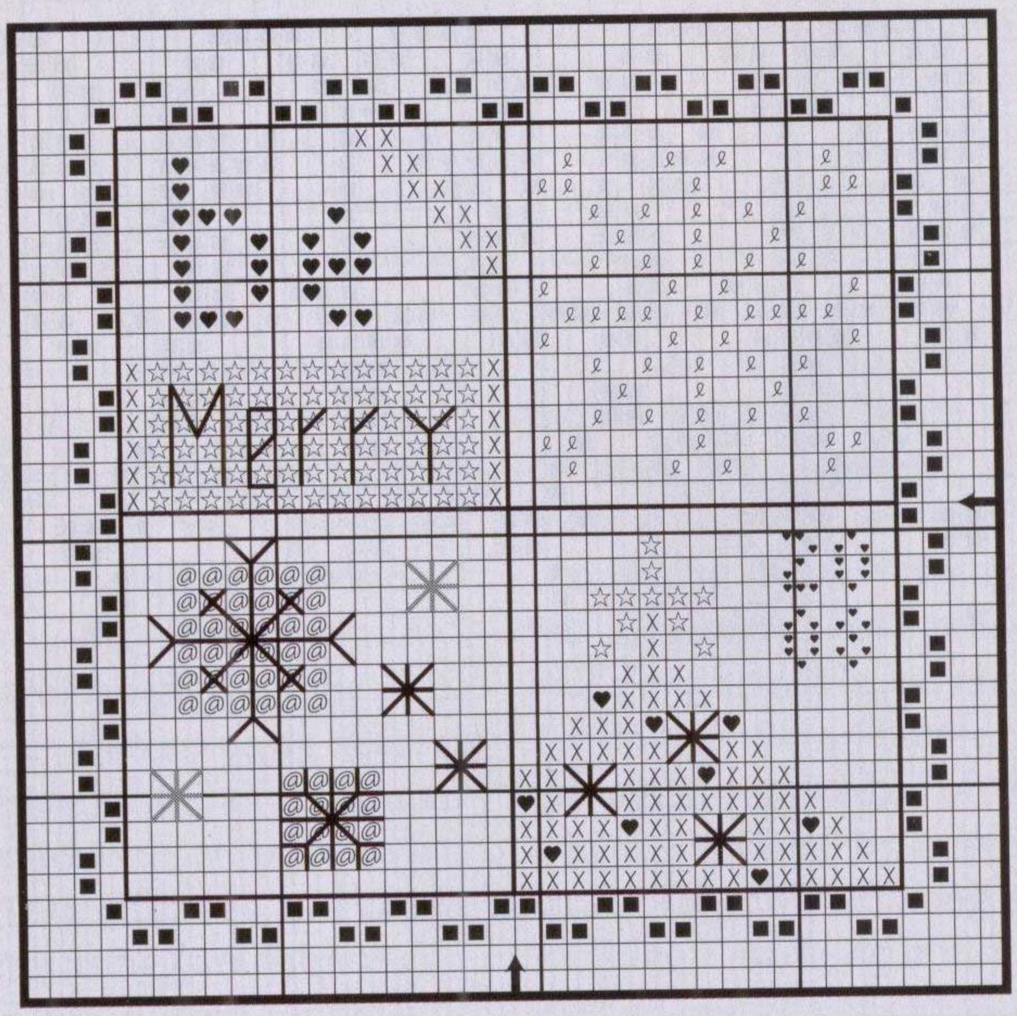
2 c. all-purpose flour
2 c. sugar
2 tsp. baking soda
4 tsp. ground pumpkin pie spice
1/2 tsp. salt
1 c. vegetable oil
4 eggs
1 (15-oz.) can pumpkin
1 c. chopped pecans and/or raisins (optional)
Cream cheese frosting, whipped cream, or frozen non-dairy whipped topping

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease and flour a Bundt® pan; set aside.

In a mixing bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking soda, spice, and salt; blend well. Stir in oil, eggs, and pumpkin; mix well. Gently fold in nuts and/or raisins, if desired.

Pour into prepared pan. Bake for 55–60 minutes, or until top springs back when touched.

Cool in pan for 15 minutes. Turn cake onto rack and allow to cool completely. Frost with desired topping.



©2008 My Mark

Be Merry

BE MERRY

Designed by Monique Keylon of My Mark

Design size: 2 1/2" x 2 1/2"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear for date, using one strand 347/1025.

Backstitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Work Smyrna cross stitch over four threads where ✷ appears, using two strands of floss.

DMC®	Anchor®	
■ 895	1044	hunter green, vy. dk.
X 3346	267	hunter green
☆ 728	307	topaz
@ 3750	1036	antique blue, vy. dk.
ℓ 519	1038	sky blue
♥ 347	1025	salmon, vy. dk.

Fabric: 7" x 7" piece 28-count antique white Cashel® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 34H x 34W

Backstitch instructions:

347	1025	lettering
519	1038	snowflakes

Smyrna cross stitch instructions:

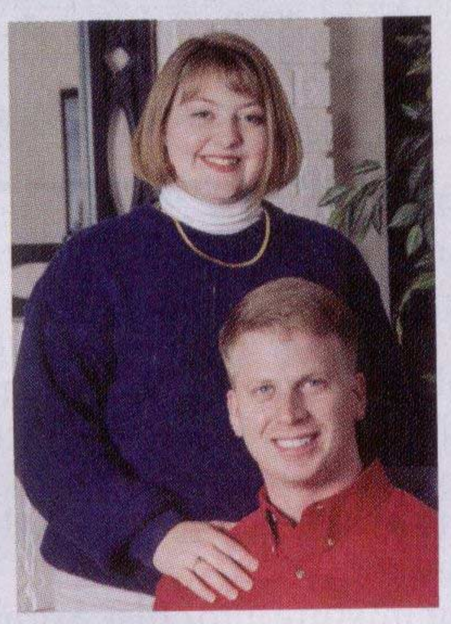
3346	267	tree
519	1038	snowflakes (gray lines)
3750	1036	snowflakes (black lines)

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Model backed using Weeks Dye Works™ #2176 meadow wool. Hanger made using red wire.

My Mark
20 Eagles Bluff Drive
Winfield, MO 63389
e-mail: *mkeylon@centurytel.net*
Web site: *www.mymarkdesigns.com*

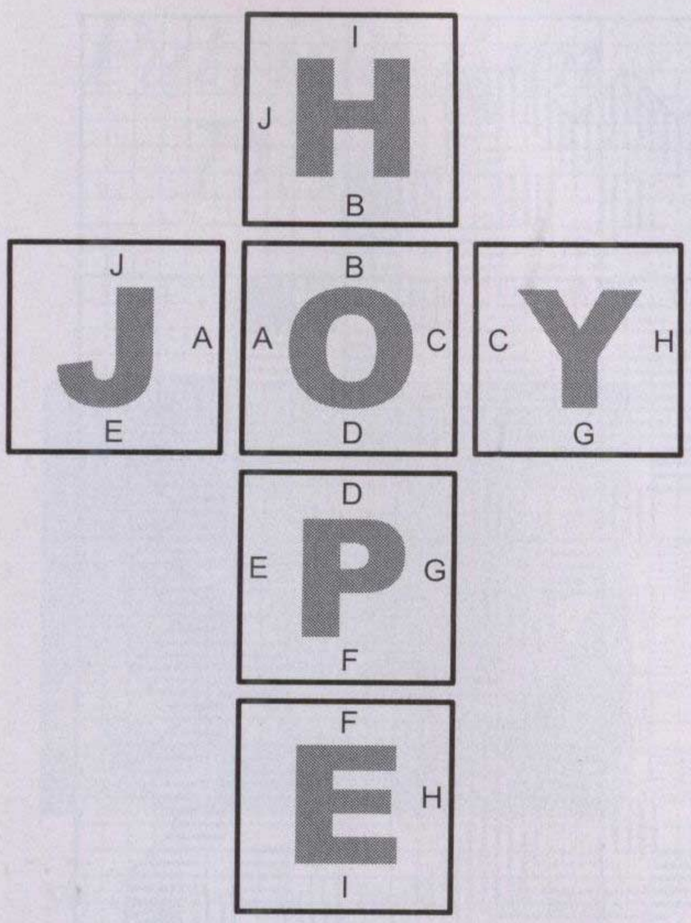
NeedlePlay Needlework Designs

Catherine Burroughs



The Air Force has given us a new assignment. As we now make our home in Florida, I have "hope" for a great tour of duty and the "joy" of being able to walk on beautiful beaches when elsewhere in the country it's 30 degrees and snowing. It'll be a golden, sunny holiday season for us.

But to make it a great holiday, no matter where you live, you must have fudge. This delicious fudge recipe is for all those milk-chocolate lovers out there. From our family to yours—enjoy the holidays!



A special thanks goes to my mom for her collaboration on my 3D stitch experiment.

HOPE AND JOY

Designed by Catherine D. Burroughs of NeedlePlay Needlework Designs

Anchor® Pearl Cotton #8

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

1 (blanc) white

Anchor® Pearl Cotton #12

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

1 (blanc) white

Rainbow Gallery Treasure Braid

○ 1 true gold (two cards)

Fabric: 13" x 11" piece 30-count winter white linen from Legacy Linens
Stitch count: 34H x 34W (per panel)
Design size: 2½" x 2½" (per panel)

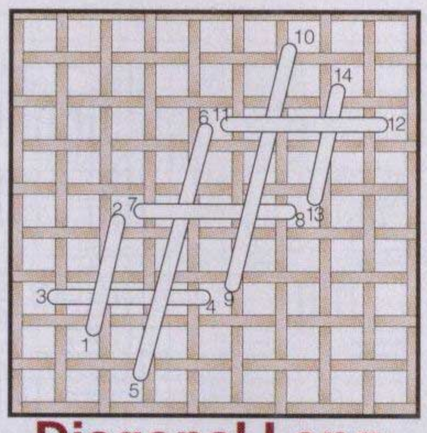
Instructions: Work design six times, leaving at least ½" between each block and stitching a different letter from lettering chart in the center of each block. (**Note:** The following instructions progress in order from the outer edge of the design to the center.)

Work backstitch over two threads for outer border, using one strand of pearl cotton #8.

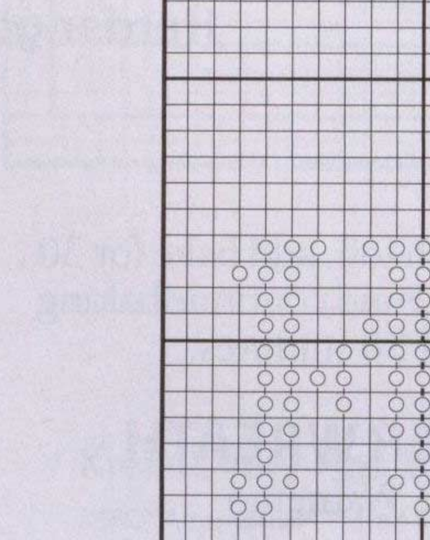
Work satin stitch for inner border, using one strand of pearl cotton #12.

Work modified ray stitch in each corner, using one strand of braid.

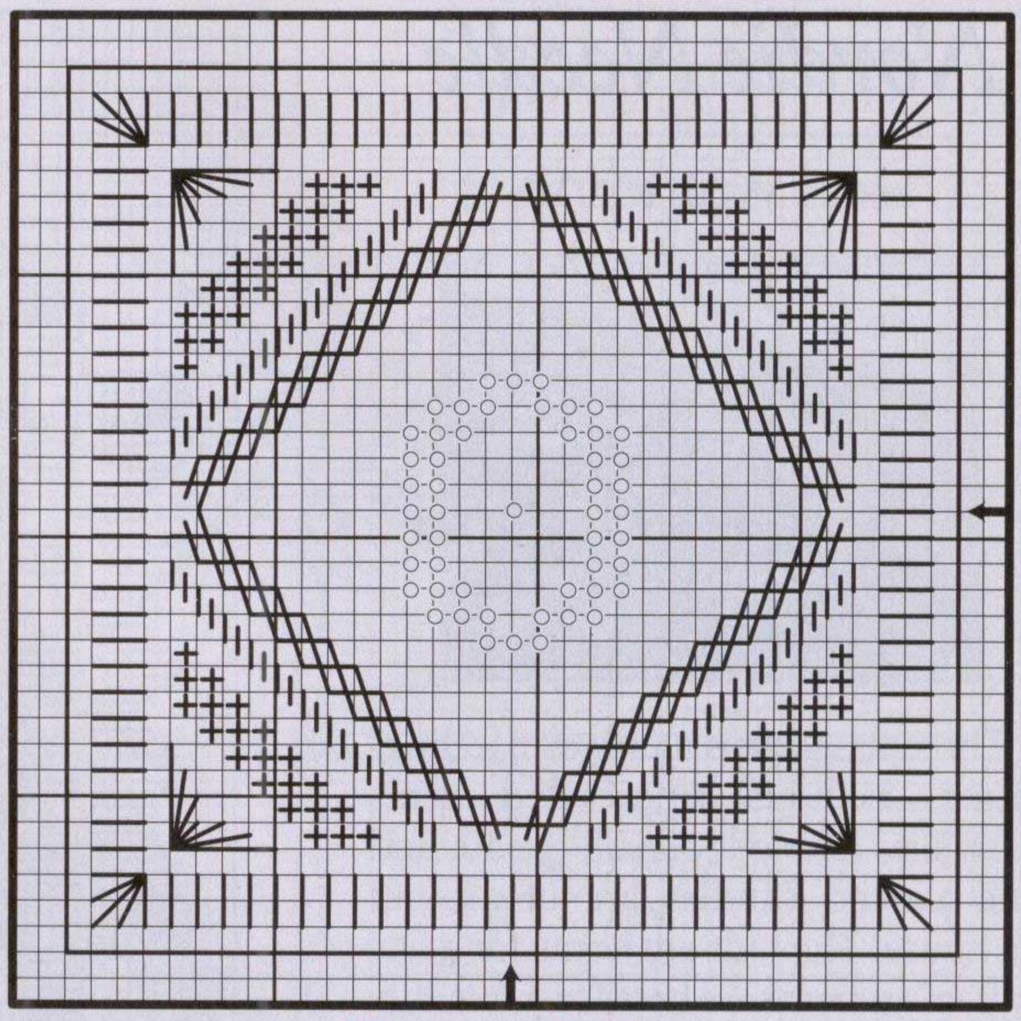
Work rows of upright cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of pearl cotton #12.



Diagonal Long-Arm Stitch

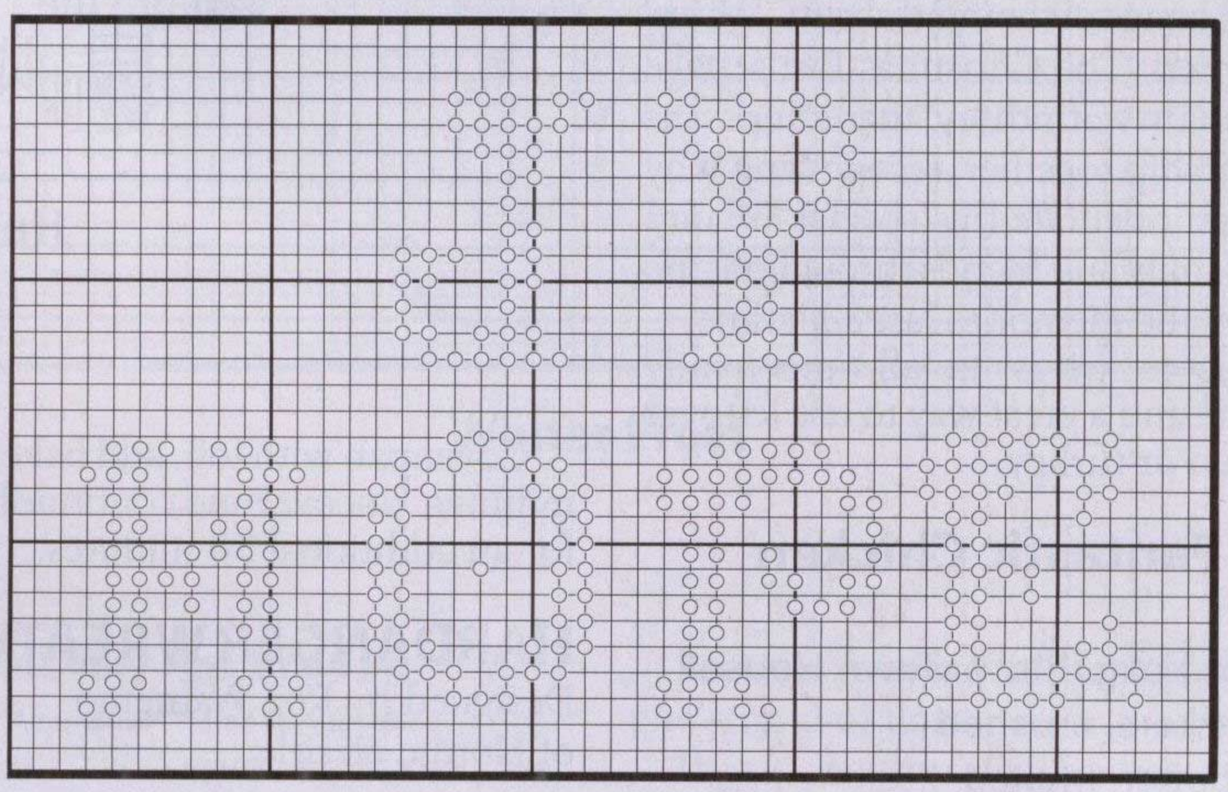


Modified Ray Stitch



Hope and Joy

©2008 NeedlePlay Needlework Designs



Lettering Chart

Work diagonal rows of satin stitch over two threads, using one strand of braid.

Work diagonal long-arm cross stitch, using one strand of pearl cotton #12.

Cross stitch over two threads for letter in center of block, using one strand of braid and offsetting cross stitch by one vertical and horizontal fabric thread.

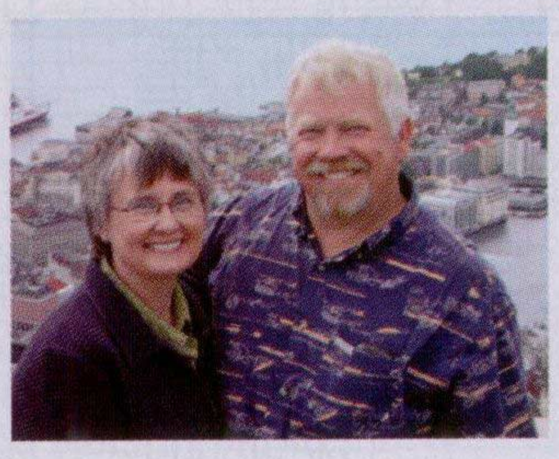
Finishing instructions: Cut out blocks, leaving a seam allowance of eight threads around each block. Finger press seam allowance to wrong side along backstitched border.

Referring to block schematic on this page, align Sides A with wrong sides together. Secure one strand of pearl cotton #12 on the wrong side of one block near corner of design. Beginning at the bottom of Sides A, begin tightly lacing panels together through backstitched borders. When the top of Sides A is reached, add another panel so that Sides B are aligned; lace together. Continue adding block panels and lacing together until Sides I are reached. Stuff firmly with fiberfill and a small weight, if desired. Make a 6" loop from twisted cording. (Model uses Anchor 1 white pearl cotton #8.) Insert ends of twisted-cording hanger in final corner before lacing ornament shut, sewing through cording to secure hanger in place.

NeedlePlay Needlework Designs
2804 Broad Wing Avenue
Panama City, FL 32405
e-mail: *needleplay@mindspring.com*
Web site:
www.needleplay.home.mindspring.com

Nordic Needle

Roz Watnemo



Christmas evokes such warm feelings for me. The house is decorated, scents of familiar festive foods fill the air, and pine-scented candles are lit around the house. The kids are home for a few days, my parents are here for our family gathering, and my brothers and some of their families come for a special meal and the exchange of thoughtful gifts. We are so blessed! The Christmas Eve service wraps us in warmth and thankfulness as we worship together, recognizing why we even celebrate this special holiday. With family and friends throughout the season, the memories last a lifetime.

This recipe is an all-time family favorite and a great way to use leftover chicken or turkey.

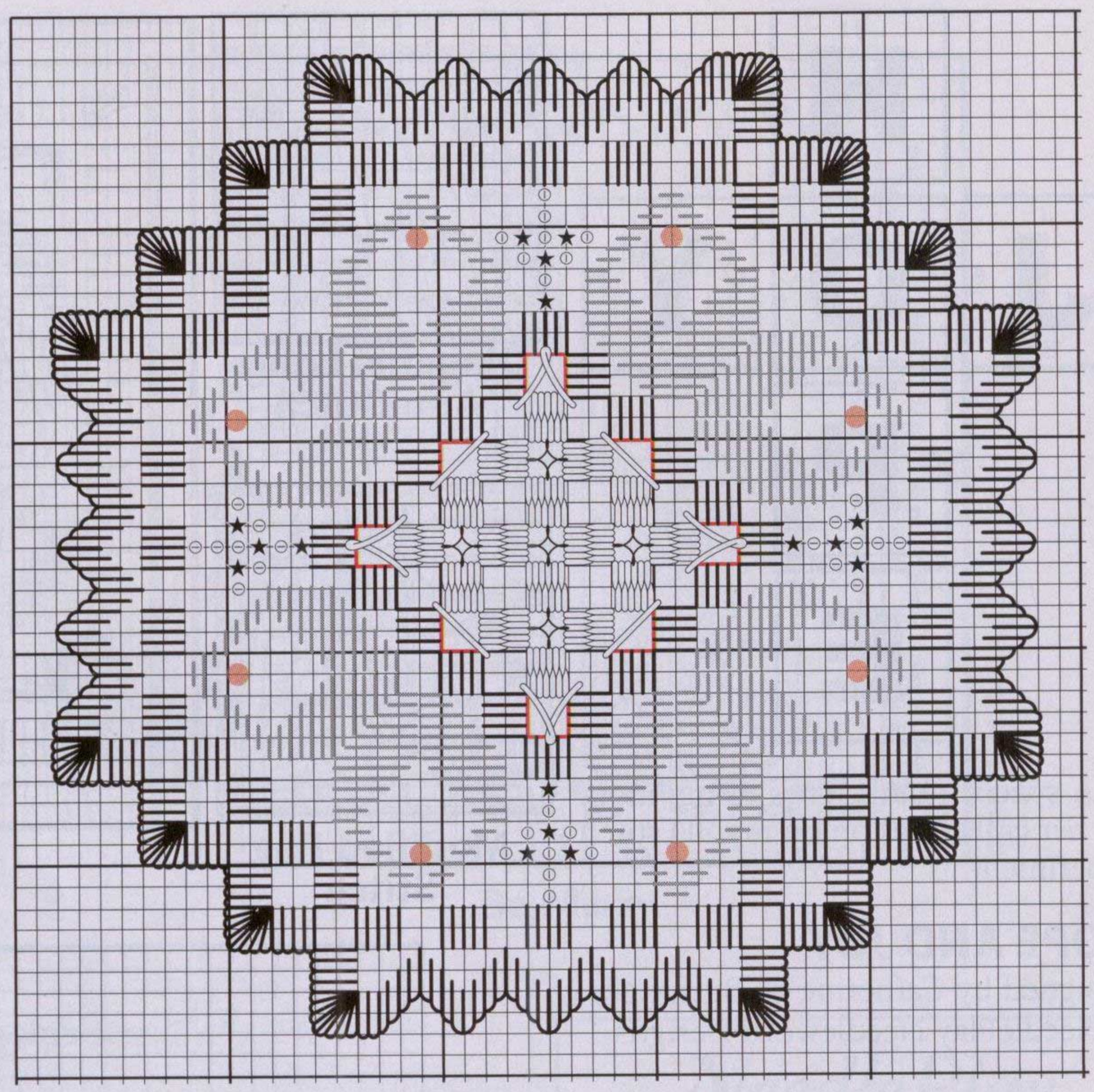
Fantastic Chicken

1 (8-oz.) pkg. Ritz or Town House® crackers, crushed
1/2 c. butter, melted
3–4 c. cooked chicken or turkey, chopped
1 (8-oz.) can sliced water chestnuts, drained
1 c. frozen peas
1 (10.75-oz.) can cream of chicken soup
1 (10.75-oz.) can cream of mushroom soup
1 c. sour cream

In a small bowl, combine crackers and melted butter; mix together. Press mixture into bottom of a 9" x 13" x 2" cake pan, reserving 1/2 c. of mixture.

Layer chicken or turkey atop cracker mixture in pan. Add water chestnuts and peas.

In a separate small bowl, combine soups and sour cream; mix well. Pour mixture over layered ingredients in pan; sprinkle with reserved cracker mixture.



©2008 Nordic Needle

Hardanger Wreath

Cover pan with foil, and bake for 30 minutes. Uncover and continue baking for an additional 30 minutes.

HARDANGER WREATH

Designed by Roz Watnemo of Nordic Needle

Dinky Dyes #8 Pearl Cotton

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

★	025 (347)	ruby
○	096 (895)	Christmas pine

Swarovski Hot-Fix Crystals

	8231	red (8)

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 25-count white Lugana® from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 46H x 46W
Design size: 3 3/4" x 3 3/4"

Instructions: Work satin-stitch blocks and Kloster blocks over four threads, using one strand 096.

Work buttonhole stitch over four threads for outer edge of ornament, using one strand 096.

Work horizontal and vertical satin stitch for flower motifs (gray lines), using one strand 025.

Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of pearl cotton. (**Note:** Symbols that appear on grid lines should be offset by one fabric thread.)

Using sharp embroidery scissors, cut fabric threads where red lines appear on chart. Carefully withdraw cut fabric threads.

Using one strand 096, work woven bars over remaining fabric threads, adding dove's eyes where indicated on chart.

Work outer web where indicated on chart, using one strand 096.

Following manufacturer's instructions and using a Professional Touch® Rhinestone applicator, attach crystals to ornament where red circles appear on chart.

Using sharp embroidery scissors, carefully trim away fabric beyond buttonhole-stitch edge.

Hanger made using invisible thread.

Nordic Needle
1314 Gateway Drive Southwest
Fargo, ND 58103
e-mail: *info@nordicneedle.com*
Web site: *www. nordicneedle.com*

Patricia Ann Designs

Patricia Bage

My children will be 22, 20, and 11 this Christmas, and they have yet to experience a white Christmas. (This year, we did have a white Easter, though!) I would love to wake up Christmas morning to draw back the curtains and see that it has snowed overnight. This year's ornament reflects our crispy cold, frosty winters in the U.K., and we get lots of those!

On Christmas day, we always have the traditional roast turkey with all the trimmings. My recipe this year is for the all-in-one roasted vegetables to accompany the roast turkey.

Still dreaming of a white Christmas!

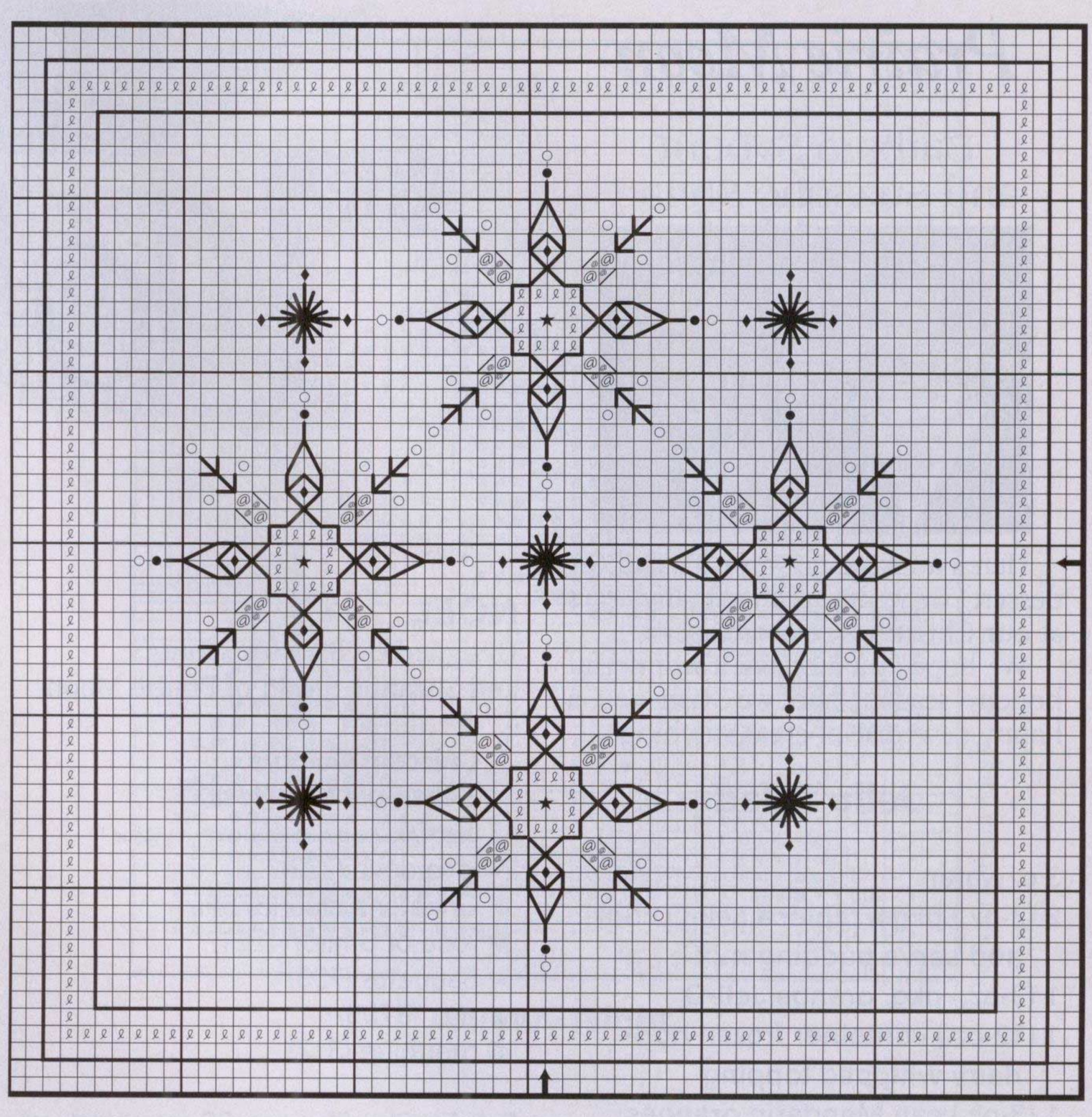
All-In-One Roasted Vegetables

3 parsnips, peeled and quartered
1 lb. Brussels sprouts, trimmed
6 large carrots, peeled and quartered
1 red onion, peeled and quartered
3 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
Salt to taste
Ground black pepper to taste
Rosemary sprigs to taste
Bay leaves to taste

Preheat oven to 375°.

In a roasting pan, combine all vegetables. Drizzle with olive oil; season with salt and pepper. Add rosemary and bay leaves.

Bake for 40–45 minutes.



©2008 Patricia Ann Designs

WINTER FROST

Designed by Patricia Bage
of Patricia Ann Designs

Kreinik Silk Mori
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

@ 5204 (3839) periwinkle, med.

Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

ℓ 001HL silver, hi lustre

Mill Hill Petite Seed Beads

○ 42010 ice

Mill Hill Glass Seed Beads

● 02026 crystal blue
◆ 03062 blue velvet

Mill Hill Glass Treasures

★ 13023 rondele crystal

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 28-count white Cashel® from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 56H x 56W
Design size: 4" x 4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of very fine braid. Work partial stitch where small symbols appear, using two strands of floss. (**Note:** Thin lines indicate stitch placement and are not to be backstitched.)

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work diamond Rhodes stitch over eight threads, using one strand 001HL.

Attach beads, using one strand of coordinating floss and a cross stitch.

Attach treasure, using one strand of coordinating floss.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Twisted cording and tassel made using DMC® 3839.

Patricia Ann Designs
9 Poachers Close
Chatham, Kent ME5 8JF
England
e-mail: *patricia.bage@btinternet.com*
Web site:
www.patricia-ann-designs.com

Prairie Moon

Barbara Syburg
and Suzanne Shead

Here's a recipe for a great salad (or dessert) we've enjoyed for many years at our Christmas celebrations.

We hope you all have a wonderful holiday season, and we wish you a happy new year of great stitching!

Jello Salad

3 c. water
2 (3-oz.) pkgs. tapioca Jell-O cook-and-serve pudding mix
1 (3-oz.) pkg. orange Jell-O
1 (12-oz.) container frozen non-dairy whipped topping
1 (3-oz.) can Mandarin oranges, drained

In a microwave-safe bowl, combine water, tapioca pudding mix, and orange Jell-O mix. Heat in microwave until just boiling. Remove and cool in refrigerator until just cool. (**Note:** Do not allow mixture to set.)

Fold Cool Whip into mixture; add oranges and stir carefully. Chill until ready to serve.

NOEL

Designed by Barbara Syburg and Suzanne Shead of Prairie Moon

Crescent Colours
Belle Soie Silk Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

- • love dove (762)
- X Chester's blue (3755)
- ♥ rose of Sharon (221)
- ~ baguette (739)
- ■ noir (3799)
- @ mer blue (312)

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 28-count natural pearl linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 33H x 68W
Design size: 2 3/8" x 4 7/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Work partial stitches where small symbols appear, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

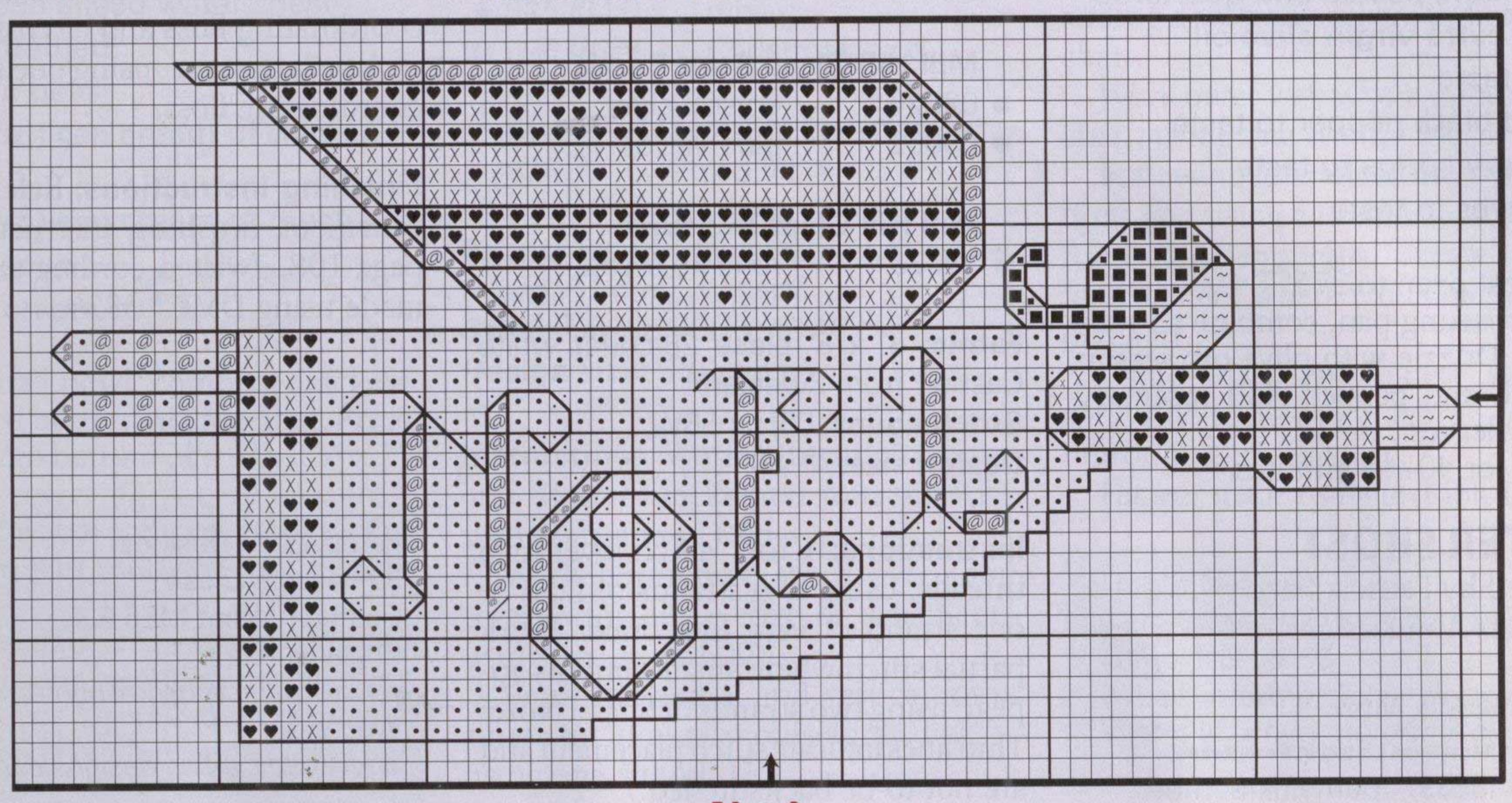
Backstitch instructions:

noir	face, hand, hair
mer blue	remaining backstitch

Finishing instructions: Using stitched piece as a template, refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Model was backed using Weeks Dye Works™ #2105 dungarees wool. Model was finished with one By Jupiter! #80052BR star brass charm. Attach charm, using one strand Kreinik 102 very fine braid #4 and referring to photo for placement. Twisted cording made using DMC® 3866.

Finished by Debra Noë from Finishing Touch

Prairie Moon
2540 Meadow Wood Road
Granbury, TX 76048
e-mail: *prairiemoon3@aol.com*
Web site: *www.prairiemoon3.com*



©2008 Prairie Moon

Noel

The Prairie Schooler, Inc.

Pamela Byrd Smith

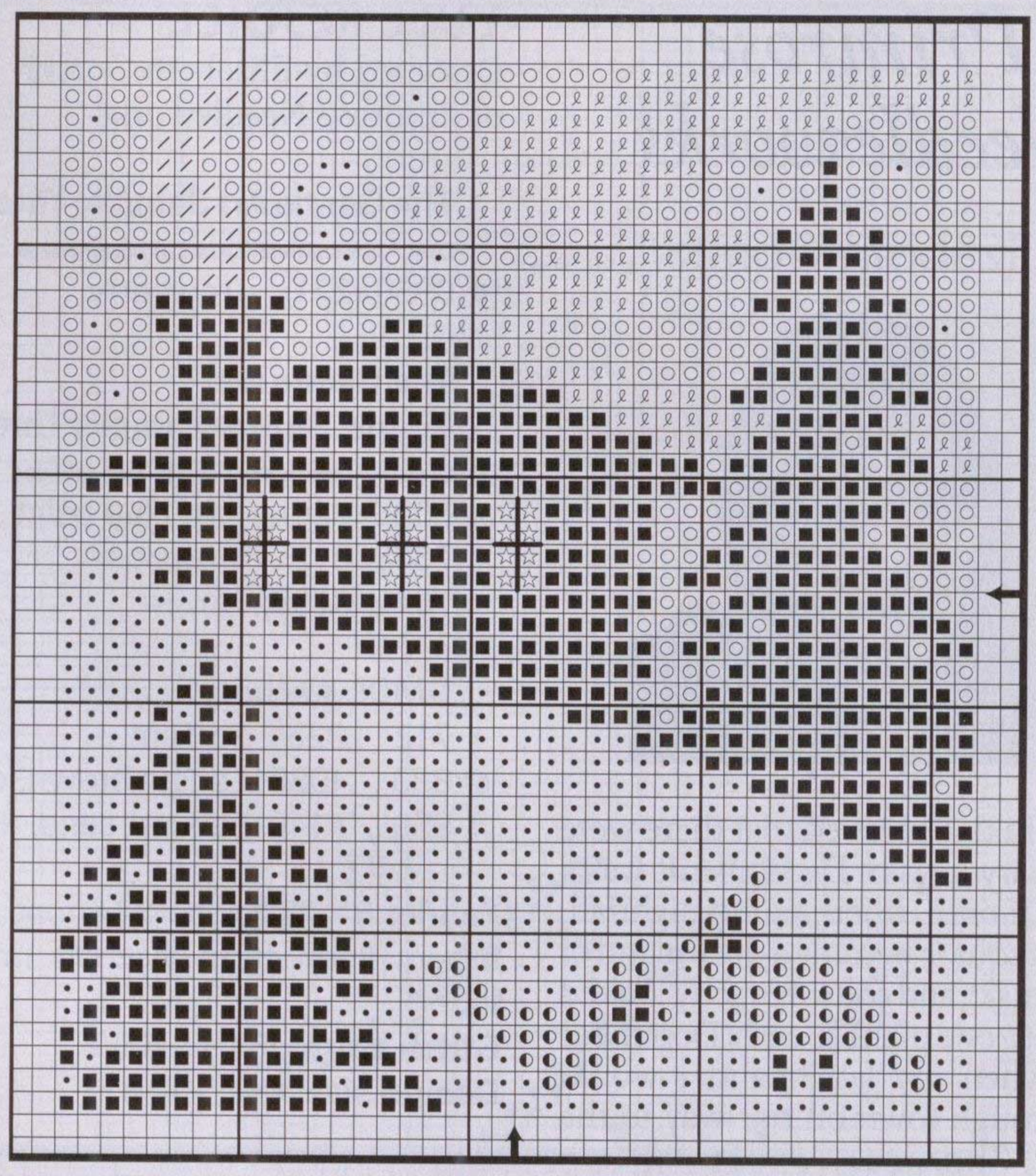
Last winter was an exceptionally long, cold one in Kansas. There was more moisture and snow than anyone can remember. However, we did have a beautiful "White Christmas." This year's ornament helps us recall that Christmas snow, a cozy place to sit by the fire, and the warmth of family and friends. What better way to relax at the end of the day than with a bowl of chili to help take off the winter chill? Fill your bowl with this quick and easy recipe. Quick-fix dinners allow more time to stitch our yearly Santa or a great design from one of our four new books.

Enjoy!

White Bean Chili

2 medium onions, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 Tbsp. vegetable oil
4 (15-oz.) cans white beans (great northern or navy)
4 c. diced cooked chicken
6 c. chicken broth
2 (4-oz.) cans chopped green chilies
2 tsp. ground cumin
1½ tsp. dried oregano
½ tsp. ground cayenne pepper
Monterey Jack cheese to garnish

In a large pot over medium heat, saute onions and garlic in oil until translucent. Add beans, chicken, chicken broth, chilies, and spices. Simmer for 45 minutes. Top with cheese and serve.



©2008 The Prairie Schooler, Inc.

Snowy Night

SNOWY NIGHT

Designed by Pamela Byrd Smith of The Prairie Schooler, Inc.

	DMC®	Anchor®	
•	blanc	2	white
☆	738	361	tan, vy. lt.
ℓ	794	175	cornflower blue, lt.
■	939	152	navy blue, vy. dk.
/	3023	899	brown gray, lt.
◐	3777	1015	terra cotta, vy. dk.
○	3807	122	cornflower blue

Fabric: 7" x 7" piece 32-count lambswool linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 46H x 38W
Design size: 2⅞" x 2⅜"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand 939/152.

Finishing materials and instructions:
2⅞" x 2½" piece cardboard
2⅞" x 2½" piece batting
3⅞" x 3½" piece red felt
6" length twisted cording, made from DMC® 3777

Glue batting to cardboard. Trim linen to 1" from stitching on all sides of stitched design. Center cardboard batting-side down against wrong side of stitched piece. Fold excess fabric over cardboard and glue in place. Using pinking shears, trim approximately ¼" from all sides of felt, making the resulting piece slightly larger than stitched piece. Glue felt to back of cardboard. Tack twisted cording hanger to back of ornament.

The Prairie Schooler, Inc.
Post Office Box 8381
Prairie Village, KS 66208
e-mail: *info@prairieschooler.com*
Web site: *www.prairieschooler.com*

Primrose Needleworks

Elizabeth Gorski

As a child, I believed that there were no ordinary days in December. It was a magical month when, come nightfall, the town square became a dreamland of lights, music, and color. I eagerly looked forward to one of those early December nights when my father and I would walk through town on our way to the outdoor Christmas tree market.

Every year we'd walk the half-mile to the market, and back—it was a tradition that belonged to me and Dad. We'd buy the tree and haul it home, energized by the evergreen scent—my father carrying the bulky, sap-covered trunk and me at the front, steering the tree top through the streets and around corners. When a neighbor asked "Where's your car?", my father would chuckle and say, "The car's at home. We forgot to take it."

Years later, I realized that Dad opted to take the long way into town and back, knowing how much I cherished our annual tradition. That turned an ordinary December night into an extraordinary memory for me to cherish as I write these words.

YULE REJOICE

Designed by Elizabeth Gorski of Primrose Needleworks

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥	0350 (221)	mulberry

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X	7006 (926)	old blue paint
	7038 (312)	freedom
	7042 (3799)	raven

DMC® Anchor®

•	712	926	cream
@	839	1086	beige brown, dk.
ℓ	950	4146	desert sand, lt.

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count natural brown linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.

Stitch count: 61H x 65W

Design size: $3\frac{7}{8}$" x $4\frac{1}{8}$"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strand of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

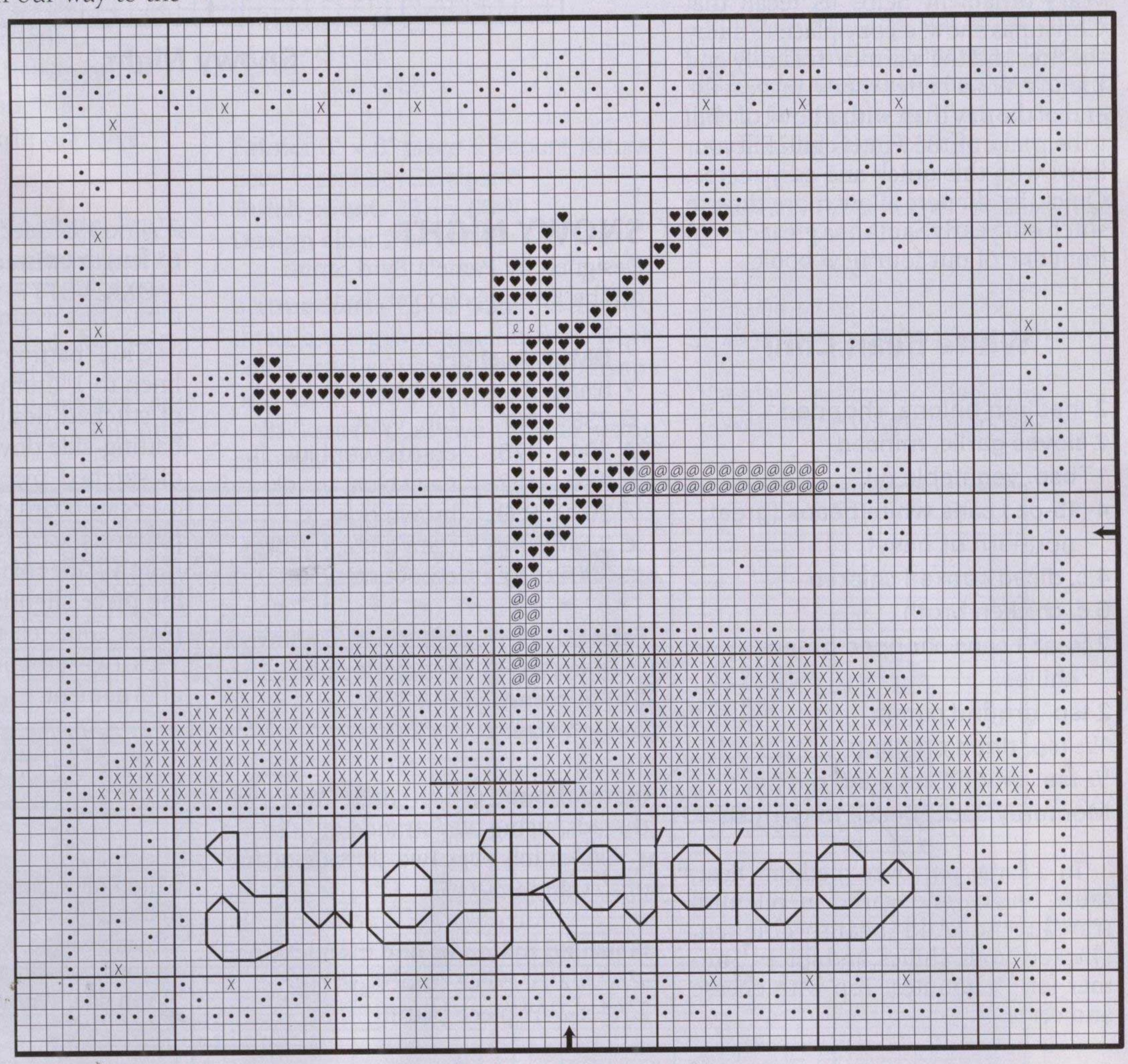
Backstitch instructions:

raven	skate blades
freedom	lettering

Finishing instructions:

Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Hanger made using purchased cording wrapped with six strands of DMC® 221.

Primrose Needleworks
420 Riverside Drive, Apartment 10-G
New York, NY 10025
e-mail: *egorski333@gmail.com*
Web site:
www.primroseneedleworks.com

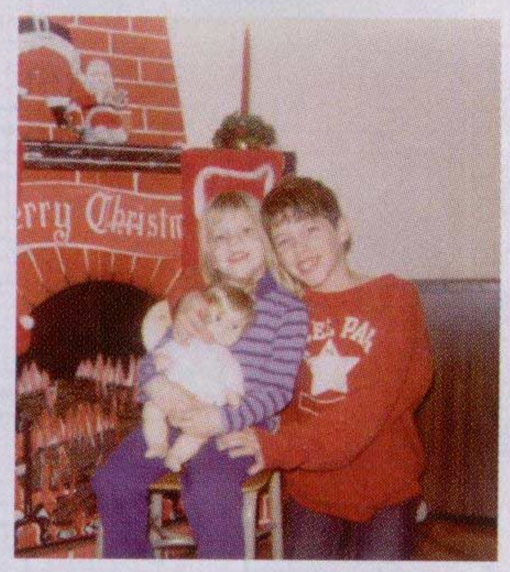


©2008 Primrose Needleworks

Yule Rejoice

Raise the Roof Designs

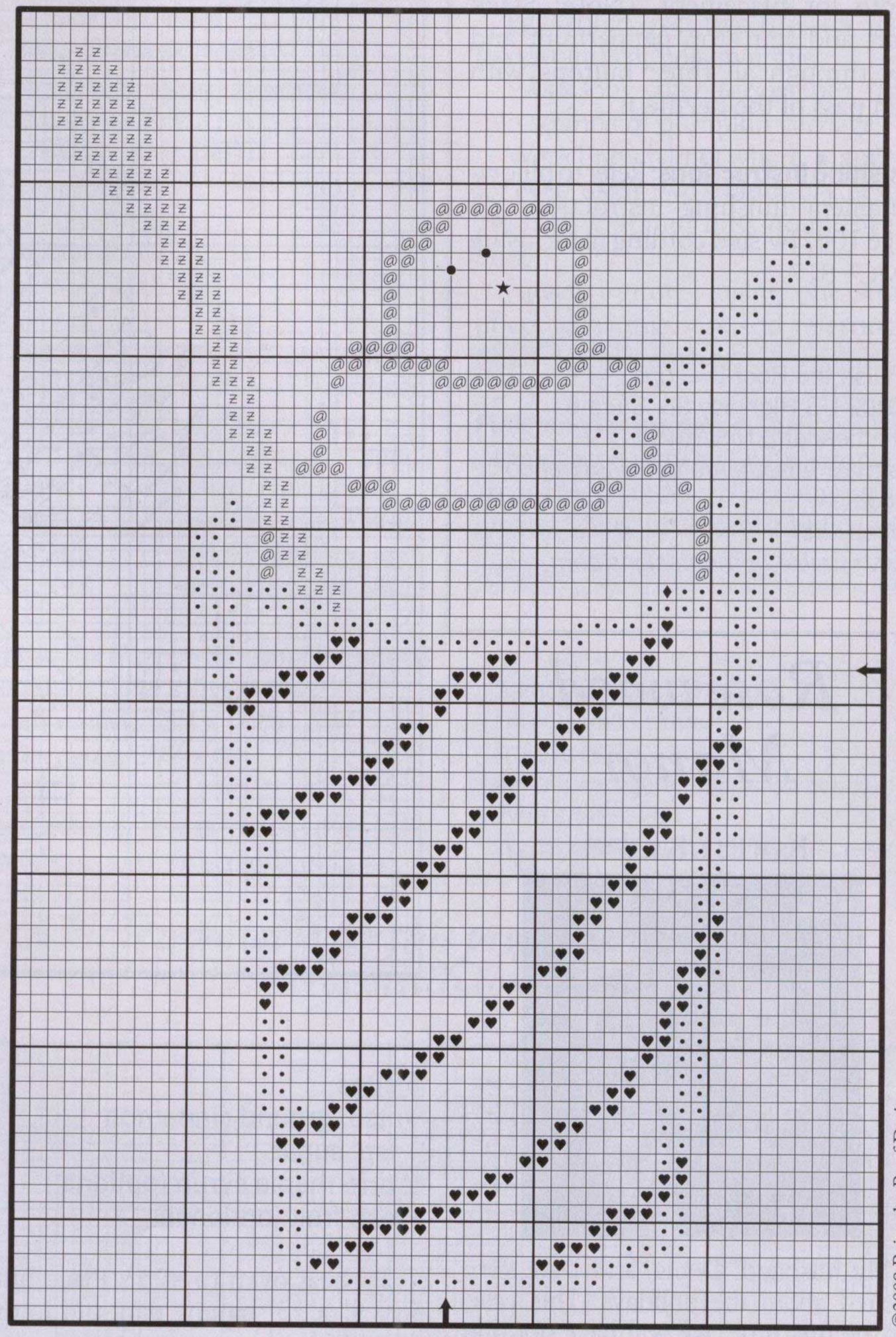
Sue Rainer and
Theresa Venette



When I was a kid growing up in St. Paul, Minnesota, Christmas was one of the best times of the year—an endless supply of delicious cookies and treats (certain ones available only at this time of year), the winter break from school, the abundance of snow, and my brother and I anticipating Santa's arrival on Christmas Eve. It was a magical time.

One sure sign that Christmas was drawing near was the day we pulled all the Christmas decorations out of the attic. One of my favorites was a life-sized cardboard fireplace. We didn't have a real fireplace in our home, so my parents said that we had to set up the cardboard one to give Santa a magical portal straight into our living room. I didn't quite understand how, but it obviously worked because the jolly guy always left presents for us under the tree. The fireplace even had a means to make it look like a fire was crackling in the hearth. It had an electric night light bulb hidden behind the cardboard flames. A small wire pin poked up just above the bulb, and on the pin, you would balance a small metal whirligig that rotated round and round from the heat of the light bulb. This made it appear as if a flickering fire was alight in the fireplace.

Just before we went to bed on Christmas Eve, we would place some cookies and a beer on the mantel of the cardboard fireplace for Santa (a beer because my dad said that it was what Santa really wanted). In the morning, the beer was empty and the cookies gone, and Santa proved, once again, that he was able to squeeze through that cardboard chimney and leave some magic under our tree.



©2008 Raise the Roof Designs

Walt the Malt

WALT THE MALT

Designed by Theresa Venette
of Raise the Roof Designs

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

ƶ	0113 (368)	mistletoe
♥	0930 (817)	buckeye scarlet

The Gentle Art
Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

@	7029 (3790)	walnut
•	7012 (blanc)	picket fence

DMC® Anchor®

310	403	black

Just Another Button Company™

★	2208.NW	wee nose carrot
◆	4447.S	small holly
	3349.T	tiny folk art red heart
	4415.L	large red peppermint
	3463.M	medium pale sage star

Fabric: 8" x 6" piece 32-count natural Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 72H x 46W
Design size: 4 1/2" x 2 7/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

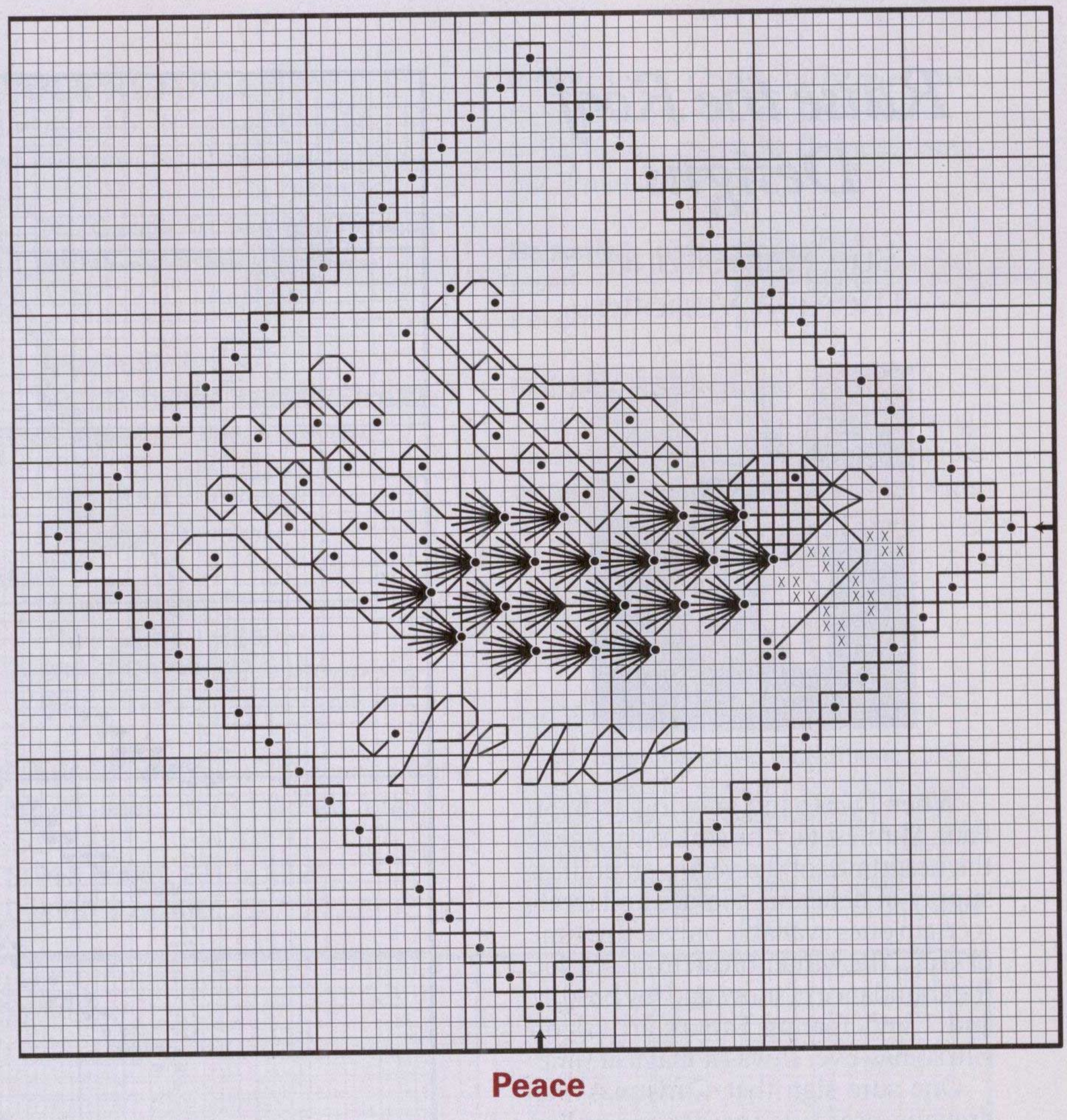
Work Colonial knot where ● appears for eyes, using two strands 310/403.

Attach buttons, using two strands

of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement. (**Note:** Stack heart and star atop peppermint and sew through all three buttons with each pass of the needle.)

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Twisted cording made using DMC® 817.

Raise the Roof Designs
6102 US Highway 98, Suite 6
Hattiesburg, MS 39402
e-mail: *raisetheroofdesigns@yahoo.com*
Web site:
www.raisetheroofdesigns.com



©2008 Rosewood Manor

Peace

Fabric: 9" x 9" piece 28-count antique white Cashel® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 66H x 66W
Design size: 4¾" x 4¾"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss and one strand of cord.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss and one strand of cord.

Work horizontal ray stitch over eight threads for bird's body, using one strand of floss and one strand of cord.

Attach beads, using one strand of coordinating floss and a cross stitch.

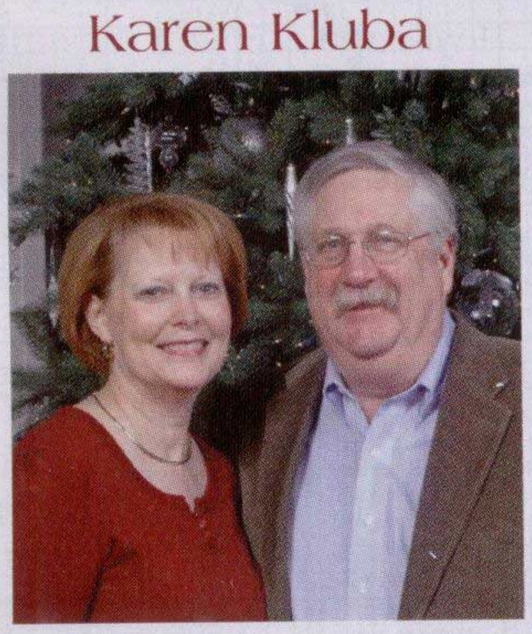
Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Twisted cording made using DMC® 926 and Kreinik #032 cord.

Finished by Marilyn Clanin

Rosewood Manor
13531 Six Points Road
Carmel, IN 46032
e-mail: *karen@rosewoodxstitch.com*
Web site: *www.rosewoodxstitch.com*

Rosewood Manor

Karen Kluba



My husband, Denis, and I are very excited about the holidays. This year, for the first time, we will have not one but two new grandchildren in our family with whom to share the joy that is Christmas. They may not be old enough to really appreciate the season and all its activities this year, but, in years to come, I hope they will enjoy the many traditions our family has developed. If I could give our daughters, their spouses, and their children only one gift this year, it would be peace on this earth. The ornament I have created symbolizes my wish for a peaceful world.

The following recipe has now become part of our traditional Christmas morning breakfast; I think my grandchildren will enjoy watching the pancake grow in the oven.

German Pancakes

6 Tbsp. butter
1 c. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. salt
1 c. milk
6 eggs
½ tsp. ground cinnamon
1 tsp. sugar
Warm maple syrup (optional)
Fresh fruit (optional)

Preheat oven to 425°. Place butter in a 9" x 13" baking pan; put in oven to melt until butter bubbles.

In a mixing bowl, combine flour, salt, milk, eggs, cinnamon, and sugar; mix well. Pour batter into buttered pan. Bake for 25 minutes. (**Note:** Pancake will rise to 6–8 inches, but falls when removed from oven.)

Slice and serve with warm maple syrup and fresh fruit.

PEACE

Designed by Karen Kluba
of Rosewood Manor

	DMC®	Anchor®	
X [	926	850	gray green, med.
[	032 Kreinik Cord		pearl

Kreinik Cord

032		pearl

Mill Hill Antique Seed Beads

●	03007	silver moon

SamSarah Design Studio

Patti Connor

Yep, we did it! And here's our just-married photo to prove it. Kurt and I wed on a lovely, blue-sky autumn day in our own backyard with just family and a couple of very close friends. After the ceremony and a bit of champagne, we headed over to "the party." One of our local golf clubs has a great little bar with lots of big windows overlooking the course. We rented it and hosted about 200 of our very favorite people. It was crowded and noisy and so much fun. Lots of dancing, good food, plentiful beverages, karaoke, and laughter filled the evening. Days like that remind us how truly fortunate we are.

With our newly expanded family, we had a houseful at Christmas. I was in heaven. I love to cook, but we had been extra busy with work and family. So, here's my recipe for Christmas dinner.

The day after Thanksgiving, call the Honey Baked Ham store and reserve a baked turkey and a spiral sliced ham. Pick them up early in the day on Christmas Eve. Assemble a few make-ahead side dishes and store in the refrigerator. Toss the side dishes in the oven about a half hour before you'd like to serve your holiday dinner. On Christmas Day, relax and enjoy your family.

Hope you and your loves ones have a splendid holiday!

CHRISTMAS EVE

Designed by Patti Connor
of SamSarah Design Studio

Crescent Colours
Belle Soie Silk Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

~ baguette (738)
@ Chester's blue (931)
• icing (3865)
⨯ kiwi (471)
♥ poison apple (3831)
○ pumpkin carriage (977)

Just Another Button Company™

◆	3340.S	small red velvet heart
★	2208.NW	wee nose carrot
	1113.T	tiny frank's cardinal
	1199.T	tiny golden birdie
	3462.M	medium butter star
	3463.S	small pale sage star
	3463.S	small periwinkle star

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 30-count gunmetal linen from Weeks Dye Works™
Stitch count: 53H x 60W
Design size: 3⅝" x 4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using two strands of poison apple.

Work long stitch for bag ties, using two strands of pumpkin carriage.

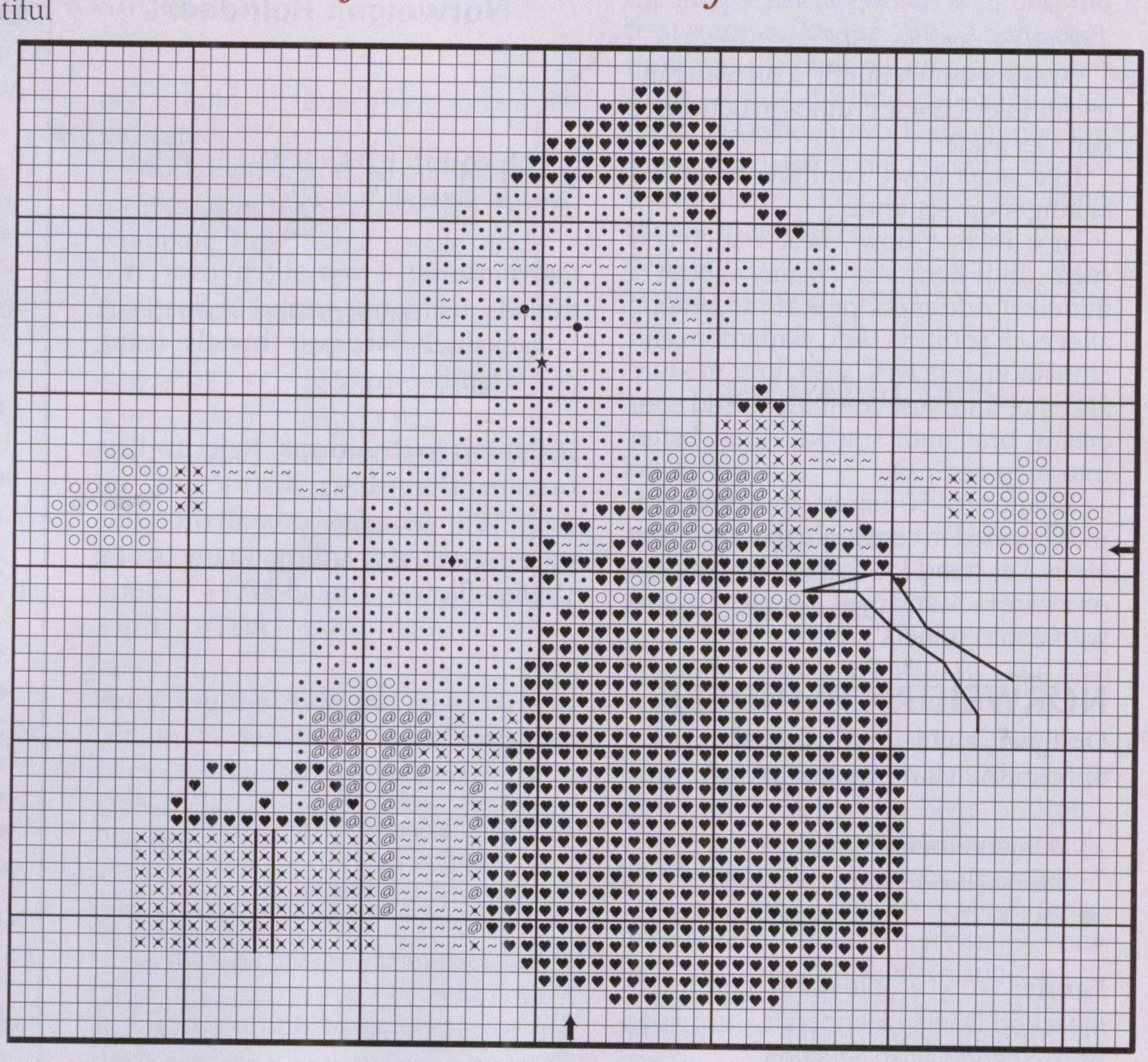
Work French knot where ● appears for eyes, using two strands of Chester's blue and wrapping floss around needle once.

Attach buttons, using one strand of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Hander made using ¼"-diameter white iridescent ribbon.

SamSarah Design Studio
140 Oakdale Drive
Troy, IL 62294
e-mail: *samsarahdesign@msn.com*
Web site:
www.samsarahdesignstudio.com

A kit is available for this project. Please go to www.just-crossstitch.com for details.



©2008 Sam Sarah Design Studio

Christmas Eve

Scandinavian Stitches

Lynda D. Baldauf

Scandinavian Cardamom Coffeecake

10 vanilla wafer cookies, crushed
1 3/4 c. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1/2 c. butter, softened
1 c. sugar
3 eggs
2 tsp. ground cardamom
1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
2/3 c. sour cream
Confectioners' sugar

Preheat oven to 350°.

Grease a 9-inch Bundt® pan with butter; sprinkle cookie crumbs in bottom of pan. Set aside.

In a small bowl, combine flour and baking soda; set aside.

In a mixing bowl, beat butter and sugar until light and creamy (about 3 minutes). Add eggs, one at a time, beating after each addition. Add cardamom and cinnamon; mix well. Add flour mixture and mix until just combined. Add sour cream; beat until smooth. Pour batter into prepared pan.

Bake for 45–50 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center of cake comes out clean. Let stand for 5 minutes; turn out on a wire rack and cool completely. Dust with confectioners' sugar.

NORWEIGAN REINDEER

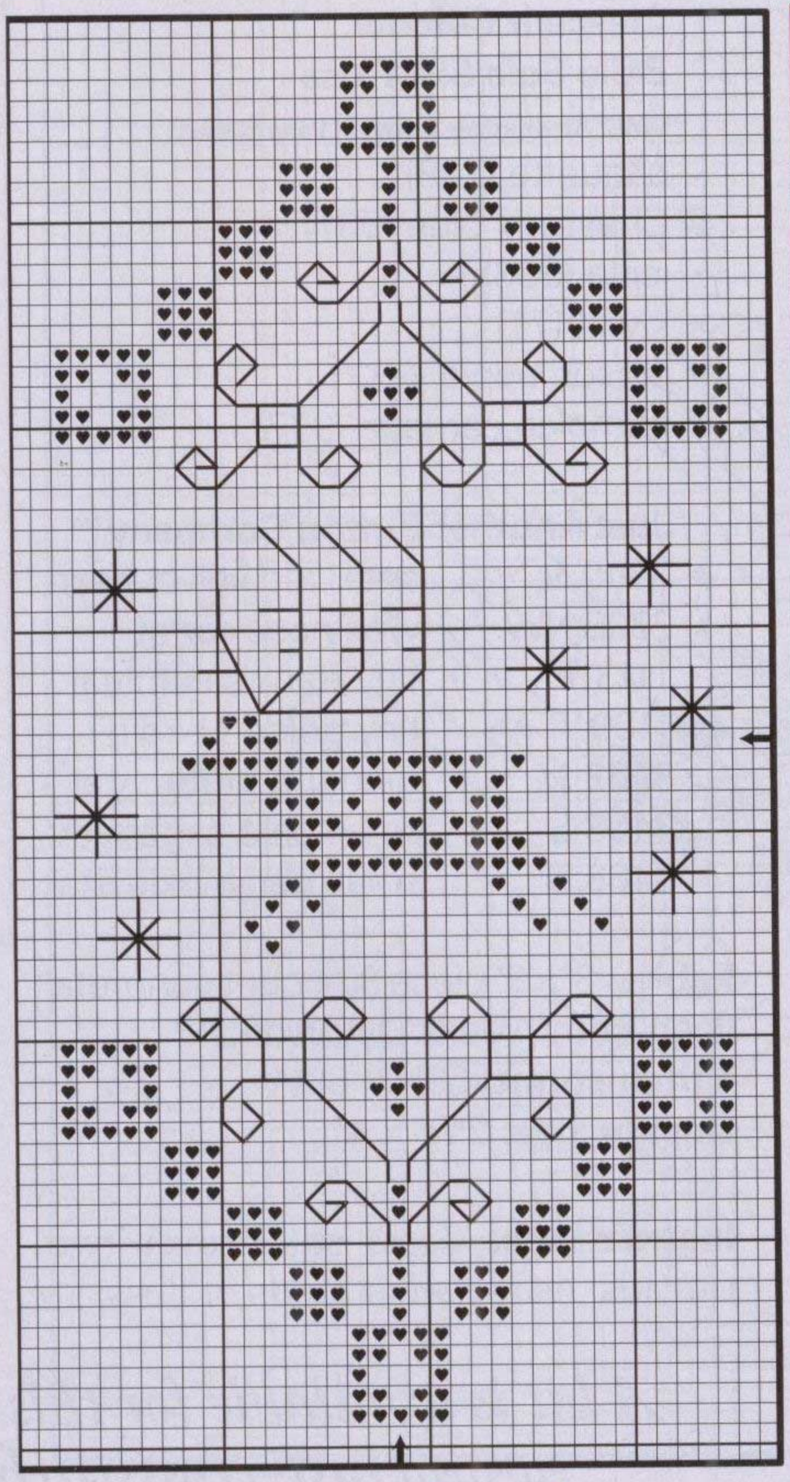
Designed by Lynda D. Baldauf
of Scandinavian Stitches

Danish Flower Thread

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥ 29 (902) mahogany

Fabric: 9" x 7" piece 30-count unbleached Danish Handcraft Guild linen from Scandinavian Stitches



©2008 Scandinavian Stitches

Norweigan Reindeer

Stitch count: 67H x 33W
Design size: 4 1/2" x 2 1/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

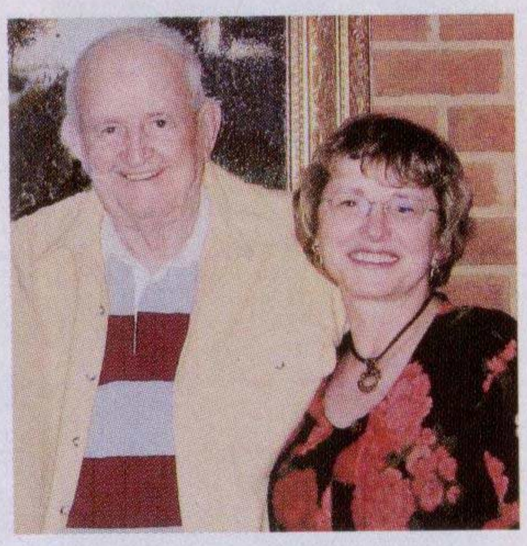
Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Template provided on this page. Twisted cording made using Danish Flower Thread 29.

Scandinavian Stitches
Post Office Box 501
Riverside, CT 06878
e-mail:
info@scandinavianstitches.com
Web site:
www.scandinavianstitches.com

Serendipity Designs

Carolyn Meacham

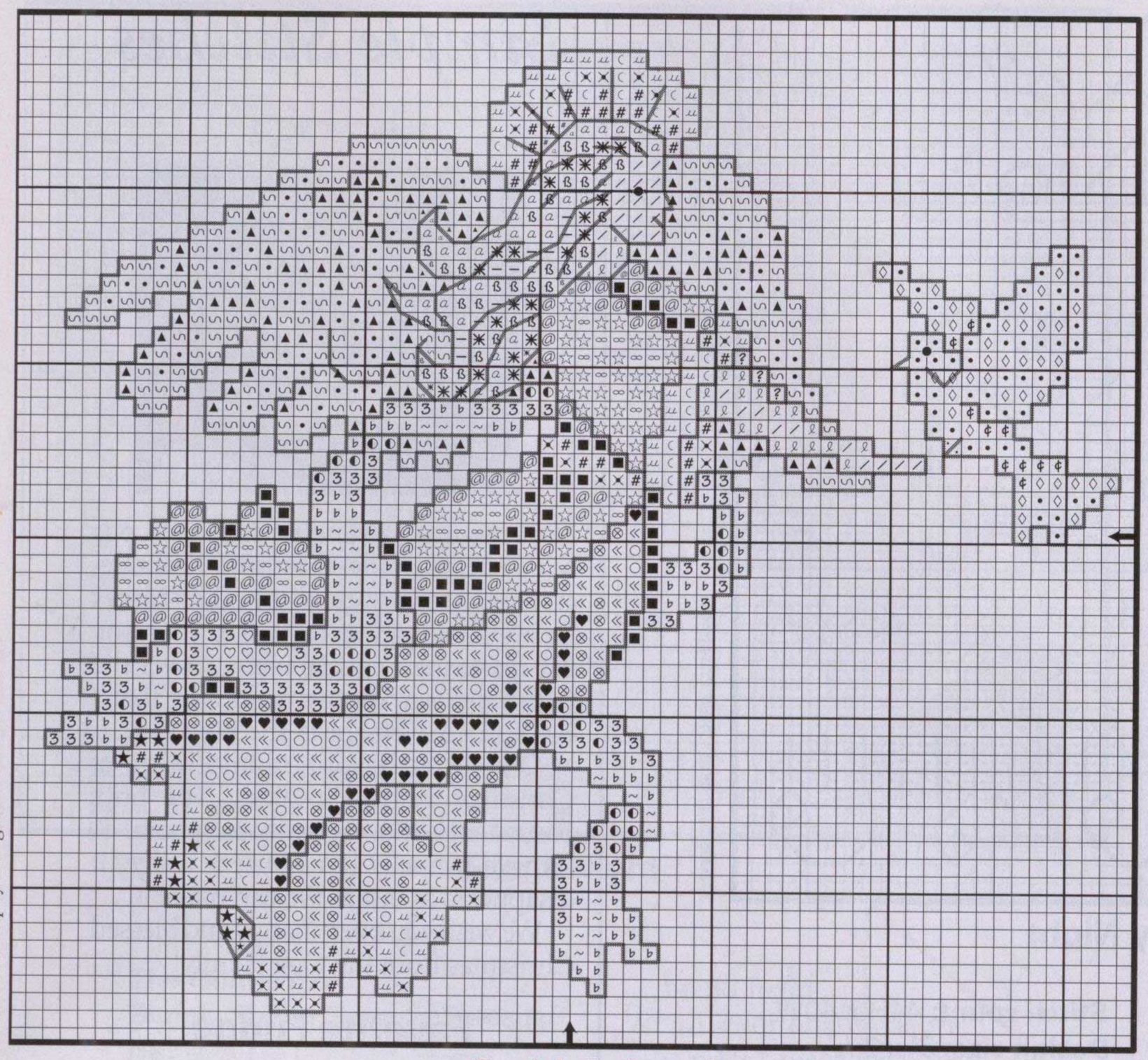


Christmas is a time for celebrating the fact that God sent Christ into the world to redeem us. It's also a time for family, love, and counting your blessings. I lost my Dad while stitching this angel, so I'm dedicating her to him. His love and the example he set have inspired me all of my life. This Christmas will be the first without him, but because of the Light brought into the world on Christmas, I know I'll see him again.

DADDY'S ANGEL

Designed by Carolyn Meacham
of Serendipity Designs

	DMC®	Anchor®	
∩	3072	397	beaver gray, vy. lt.
▲	648	900	beaver gray, lt.
/	3774	778	desert sand, vy. lt.
ℓ	950	4146	desert sand, lt.
?	3773	1008	desert sand, med.
–	739	366	tan, ul. vy. lt.
a	738	361	tan, vy. lt.
ß	437	362	tan, lt.
✳	436	363	tan
b	760	1022	salmon
♡	760	1022	salmon
♡	761	1021	salmon, lt.
~	761	1021	salmon, lt.
3	3712	1023	salmon, med.
◐	3328	1024	salmon, dk.
○	3753	1031	antique blue, ul. vy. lt.
«	3752	1032	antique blue, vy. lt.
⊗	932	1033	antique blue, lt.
♥	931	1034	antique blue, med.
☆	368	214	pistachio green, lt.
∞	368	214	pistachio green, lt.
∞	369	1043	pistachio green, vy. lt.
@	320	215	pistachio green, med.
■	367	216	pistachio green, dk.
◯	677	361	old gold, vy. lt.
◯	002HL	Kreinik BF	gold, hi lustre



Daddy's Angel

μ	676	891	old gold, lt.
	002HL	Kreinik BF	gold, hi lustre
✕	729	890	old gold, med.
	002HL	Kreinik BF	gold, hi lustre
#	680	901	old gold, dk.
	002HL	Kreinik BF	gold, hi lustre
★	420	374	hazelnut brown, dk.
	002HL	Kreinik BF	gold, hi lustre
•	blanc	2	white
◊	415	398	pearl gray
	762	234	pearl gray, vy. lt.
¢	415	398	pearl gray
	647	1040	beaver gray, med.
	434	310	brown, lt.
	319	1044	pistachio green, vy. dk.
	930	1035	antique blue, dk.
	309	42	rose, dk.

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count driftwood Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 55H x 60W
Design size: 3½" x 3¾"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. When two colors are bracketed together, use one strand of floss and one strand of blending filament.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss unless otherwise indicated.

Work French knot where • appears for eyes, using two strands 930/1035 and wrapping floss around needle once.

Backstitch instructions:

647	1040	wings, dove
420	374	gold trim, halo
434	310	angel's hair
680	901	dove's beak and legs (two strands)
319	1044	green robe
930	1035	blue gown, angel's eye
309	42	ribbon, angel's mouth
3773	1008	angel's face

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Twisted cording made using DMC® 642 and Kreinik Fine Braid #8 002HL.

Serendipity Designs
11612 Busy Street
Richmond, VA 23236
e-mail: *cmmeacham@aol.com*
Web site: *www.serendipitydesigns.com*

©2008 Serendipity Designs

Shepherd's Bush Printworks

Teri Richards and
Tina Richards Herman

In our family we have always made candy at Christmas—not always very successfully either. My mom usually made tons of popcorn balls that we kept in a large basket for holiday visitors. We got to butter our hands and shape them into little balls, sneaking bits and pieces as we went. Then, there was the cut candy that my older sister brought home from college. This extremely messy candy took all day long to make and sent powdered sugar everywhere, but we munched on the intense, clear crystals well into the next summer. Yet the candy I remember most was the pink pulled taffy we often made. It was hot and painful to hold on to, but when it worked out, nothing was better than the buttery mint morsels that appeared. Now Teri and I are taking classes in chocolates and toffee from a darling customer who is a genius. Who knows, we might even try the taffy this year.

Pink Mint Taffy

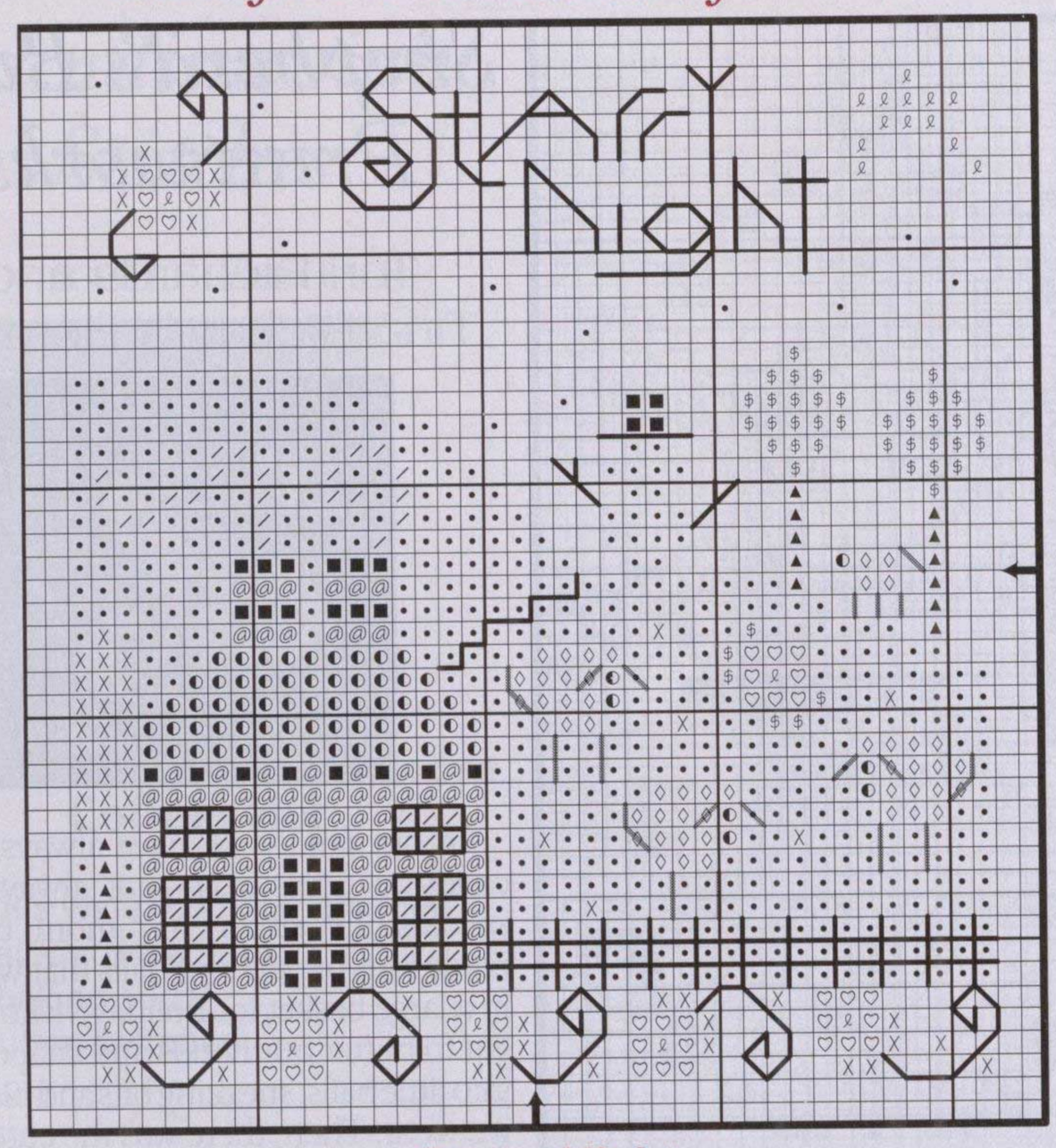
2 c. sugar
⅔ c. water
½ c. light corn syrup
Red food coloring
¼ tsp. peppermint oil

Butter a 9" x 9" baking pan; set aside.

In a medium saucepan over medium heat, combine sugar, water, and corn syrup. Stir until sugar dissolves. Add food coloring to achieve desired color. Cook without stirring until mixture registers 265° on a candy thermometer. Remove from heat and add peppermint oil. Pour into prepared pan; allow to cool.

As soon as the mixture is able to be handled, take a large spoonful of mixture. Pull between hands until

A kit is available for this project. Please go to www.just-crossstitch.com for details.



©2008 Shepherd's Bush Printworks

Starry Night

mixture becomes cool and light. (**Note:** Mixture will be very stiff.) Break into pieces and wrap each individually in plastic wrap or waxed paper.

STARRY NIGHT

Designed by Tina Richards Herman of Shepherd's Bush Printworks

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

▲	1233 (610)	cocoa
◊	1174 (647)	tin roof
/	1153 (318)	galvanized
X	1193 (3013)	guacamole

Crescent Colors Hand Dyed Cotton Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

- ◐ muddy puddle (645)
- • antique lace (822)
- $ pea pod (3011)
- ♡ clay pot (223)
- ■ blackbird (310)
- @ red currant (902)
- ℓ ye olde gold (783)

Shepherd's Bush Sterling Charms

silver heart

Fabric: 7" x 7" piece 30-count pepper linen from R & R Reproductions

Stitch count: 44H x 40W
Design size: 3" x 2⅔"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using two strands of floss unless otherwise indicated.

Attach charm, using two strands of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Backstitch instructions:

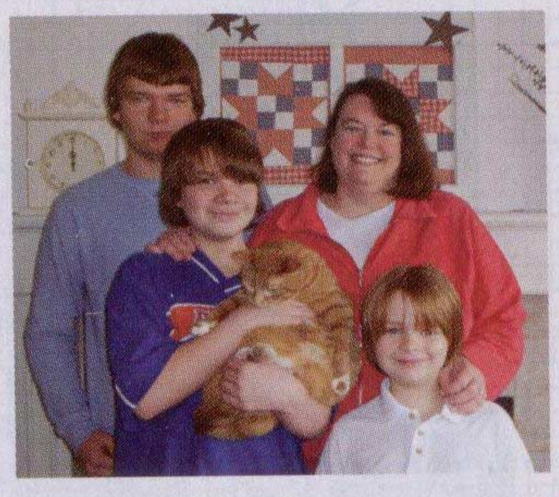
red currant	lettering
muddy puddle	sheep's ears, tails, legs (gray lines)
blackbird	snowman's hat; windows (one strand)
1193	vines
1233	fence, snowman's arms

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Hanger was made using 7/16"-wide silk ribbon.

Shepherd's Bush Printworks
220 24th Street
Ogden, UT 84401
e-mail: *bushworks2@aol.com*
Web site: *www.shepherdsbush.net*

Simple Stitches

Kaci Ogg



Christmas is a very special time at our house. The kids love to help me decorate, and they are very good at finding places for my whole nativity collection. Each boy has made me a special nativity over the years, and they always make sure theirs has a place of honor in the house.

One of our favorite things to do at Christmas is bake cookies. The boys particularly like helping eat them. A favorite recipe at our house is fudge. It disappears as fast as we can make it!

We wish you a very happy and blessed Christmas from the Ogg Family!

Favorite Fudge

¾ c. evaporated milk
9 large marshmallows, cut into pieces
1 (12-oz.) pkg. semisweet chocolate morsels
2 c. sugar
¼ c. butter
1 tsp. vanilla

Grease one 8" x 8" pan; set aside.

In a large saucepan over medium heat, combine milk, marshmallows, sugar, and butter. Bring mixture to a boil; boil vigorously for 4 minutes, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat and stir in chocolate morsels and vanilla. Stir until chocolate is melted. Pour into prepared pan. Chill in refrigerator until firm.

Enjoy!

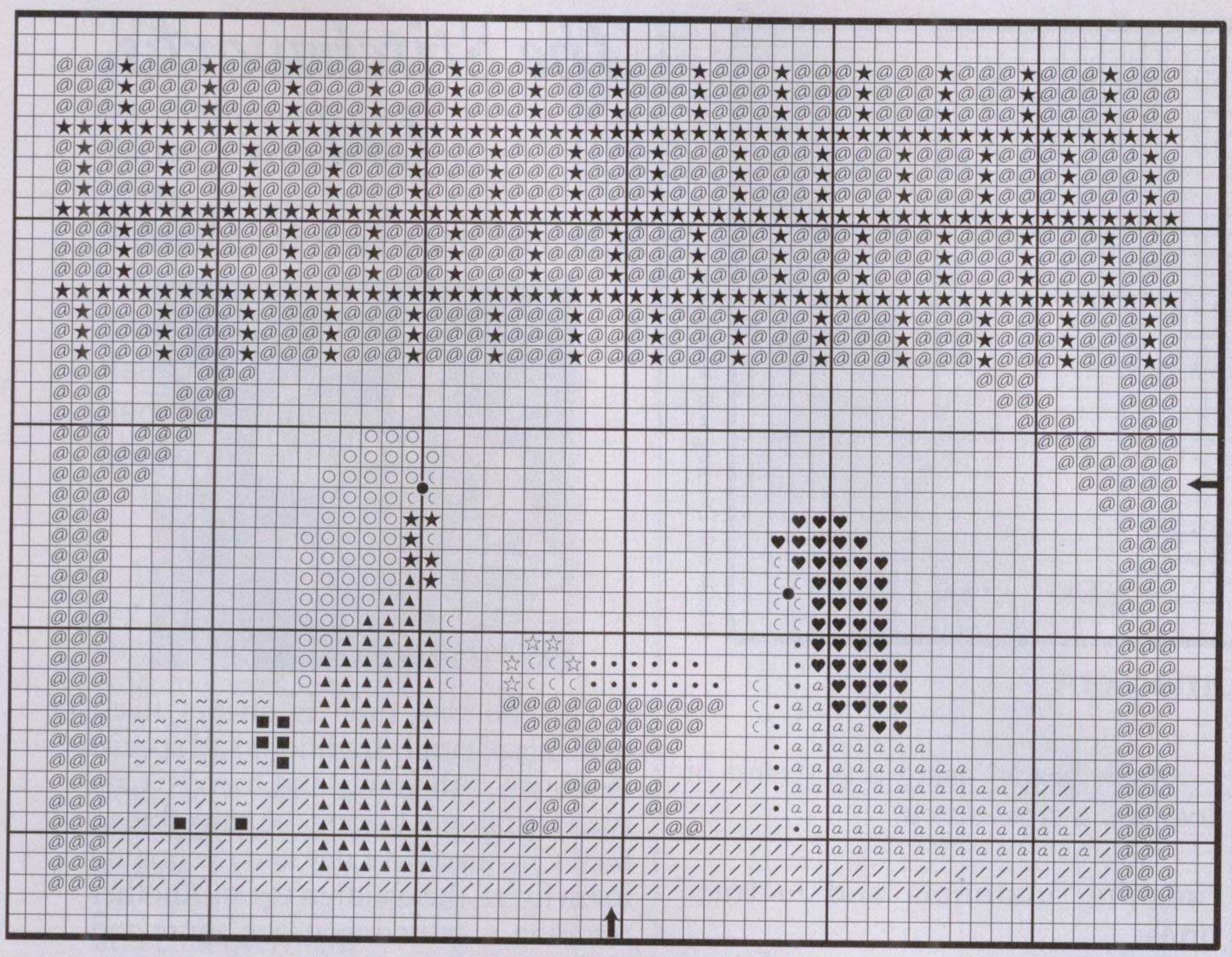
SILENT NIGHT

Designed by Kaci Ogg of Simple Stitches

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

@	0440 (3862)	maple syrup
/	0540 (437)	brandy
■	1040 (310)	black crow
~	1140 (3866)	oatmeal
★	1170 (3371)	dark chocolate



©2008 Simple Stitches

Silent Night

The Gentle Art
Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

☾	7049 (3774)	lambswool

Kreinik Fine Braid #8

•	032	pearl
☆	002HL	gold, hi lustre
a	9400	baby blue
○	027	orange
▲	072	cocoa brown
♥	623	twilight blue

Just Another Button Company™

3402.L	large tarnished gold star

Fabric: 7" x 7" piece 28-count mockingbird linen from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 41H x 55W
Design size: 3" x 4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of fine braid.

Work French knot where • appears for eyes, using one strand of 1170 and wrapping floss around needle once.

Attach button, using two strands of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Finishing materials and instructions:
5" x 4" x 2" piece STYROFOAM™ brand foam
1/8 yd. coordinating fabric
1 1/2" x 4 1/2" piece black felt
1/4 yd. quilt batting
11"-length twisted cording (Model uses 002HL gold hi lustre Kreinik® Fine Braid #8.)
Angle finder
Serrated knife or electric bread knife
Hand-sewing needle
Ruler
Fabric scissors
Glue
Sewing machine (optional)

Using serrated knife or electric knife, trim Styrofoam block to 3 7/8" x 2 1/2" x 7/8". Using angle finder or side styrofoam template, trim a 45° angle from one long end of Styrofoam block to create sloped roof. Cut pieces of batting to cover front, back, and sides of block; glue in place. Using templates on this page, cut out two Side pieces and one Back piece from coordinating fabric. Trim stitched piece to same size as Back piece.

Place stitched piece and Back piece with right sides together; pin in place. Using a 1/4" seam allowance, sew together along top edge only. Remove pins. Pin one Side piece to left side of stitched piece with right sides together; pin in place. Sew together using a 1/4" seam allowance. Remove pins. Repeat for remaining Side piece and right side of stitched piece. Repeat process to join Side pieces to Back piece. Clip corners to reduce bulk and turn right-side out. Slip assembled piece over foam block. If necessary, add layers of batting to top, back, and sides to ensure a snug fit. Referring to photo, glue or blind stitch cording in place along edge of stitched piece, tucking ends of cording into interior of assembled house. Turn under seam allowances at bottom of house. Whip stitch felt piece to bottom of house.

Back - Fabric
Side - Styrofoam
Side - Fabric

Simple Stitches
15964 "S" Street
Omaha, NE 68135
e-mail: *kmogg@msn.com*
Web site: *www.simple-stitches.com*

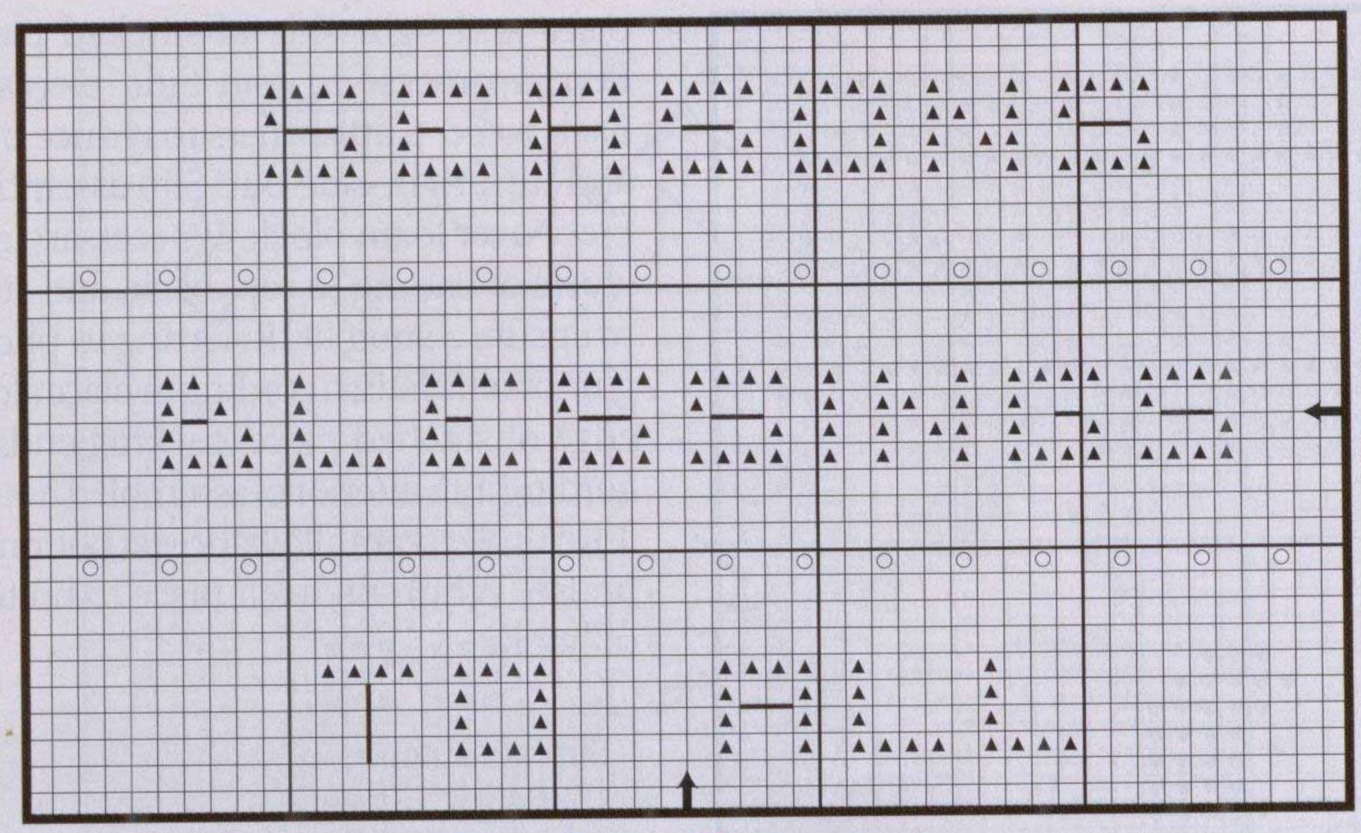
Still Stitching with Susan, LLC

Susan Greening Davis

This last year was one that will remain at the top of my list! My husband and I had rescued a 3 1/2-pound Yorkshire terrier, Bailey, in late August. CJ, my husband, had never had a dog, and the last time I had one was 27 years ago—a 180-pound harlequin Great Dane. So, what a change this was for us!

We winter in Florida, so we celebrate Christmas differently than in years past in Michigan. We go to my sister's house on Christmas Eve and then the beach for a picnic on Christmas Day.

But my favorite part of Christmas is the three weeks before. I have this great hat that looks like something from Who-ville that I wear everywhere! I always spend one day with my two nephews, now 16 and 14. They, too, have joined in on the hat fun. This year, Bailey joined my team and wore his Christmas ribbon around his neck in a big bow—it was almost as big as he was! We all made even the most "scrooge-ish" person laugh.



Blessings Ornament

This recipe is one that will be devoured quickly, and you'll hear lots of raves—especially because you won't tell anyone it's all sugar free. It's a staple in my family now, but they didn't know the secret for a long time since none of them eats "anything that is sugar free"!

Dessert to Make Everyone Smile

1 (8-oz.) container frozen whipped topping, thawed
2 qts. fresh strawberries or raspberries, rinsed
1 prepared sugar-free angel food cake

In a large bowl, crumble cake. Add strawberries and whipped topping; stir to combine. (**Note:** Halve or quarter strawberries if desired.) Spoon into a trifle bowl and serve.

BLESSINGS ORNAMENT

Designed by Susan Greening Davis of Still Stitching with Susan, LLC

	DMC®	Anchor®	
▲	500	683	blue green, vy. dk.

Mill Hill Glass Seed Beads

○	03003	antique cranberry

Fabric: 4" x 5" piece 36-count natural Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 26H x 49W
Design size: 1½" x 2¾"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands 500/683.

Backstitch over two threads, using two strands 500/683.

Attach beads, using one strand of floss and a cross stitch.

Finishing materials and instructions:

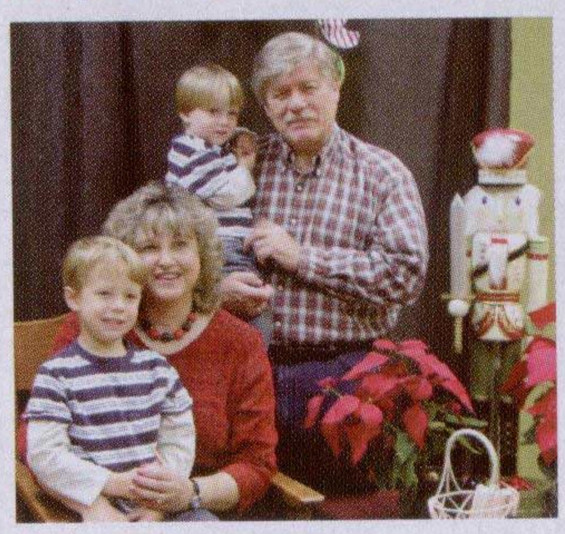
2½" half-ball button
7mm River Silk #185 ivory silk ribbon
7mm River Silk #172 deep green silk ribbon
4mm River Silk #161 burgundy silk ribbon
#25 chenille needle

Following manufacturer's instructions, adhere stitched piece to button; trim linen edges if necessary. Cut one 12" length 7mm ivory ribbon; thread in chenille needle. Place a knot about ½" from bottom of long length of ribbon. Place knot so that the tail is on top of the linen; spin ribbon 3–4 times and insert needle into linen six threads from starting point, picking up one linen thread. Gently pull silk ribbon through linen. Do not pull through completely. Repeat until ribbon runs short; leave tail and trim on an angle. Begin new length of ivory ribbon and repeat until starting point is reached, leaving a hanging loop at the top. Repeat process for burgundy ribbon, working in front of ivory ribbon. Cut green ribbon into various short lengths (1"–2"). Thread through linen, scattering around ornament; knot in place.

Still Stitching with Susan, LLC
418 East Tyrell Street
St. Louis, MI 48880
e-mail: *sgreeningd@aol.com*
Web site:
www.susangreeningdavis.com

The Stitchworks, Ltd.

Cindy and David Morrill



Our holiday time is always filled with lots of family traditions and special moments with family and friends. One such tradition is baking the gingerbread men Christmas Eve day and decorating them for all the children to eat. Another tradition is gathering at our house and pulling out all the Christmas decorations to decorate the numerous trees we put up and the children and grandchildren help us. While we were taking out the decorations, my five-year-old grandson, Cameron, asked me why there were so many gingerbread men ornaments. I told him about the story of his grandfather having to recite the "Gingerbread Man" story in first grade at a Christmas pageant and that his mother gave him a Gingerbread decoration every year since then until he got married. I then showed him several of the older ornaments, and we talked about how different some of them were. He was more worried over how yellow and old some of them looked, and he suggested I make a new one for "Papa." Of course, who can refuse your grandchild? So we decided our theme tree this year would be gingerbread boys and girls, and this is one of the ornaments we designed for the tree. It reminds me of the ones we decorate every Christmas, and David and I hope you and your family enjoy him as much as we will. If you would like a companion piece, we also have a "Gingerbread Girl" since we are awaiting our third grandchild and hoping it is a girl!

Enjoy the delicious recipe and have fun decorating and stitching your very own gingerbread men.

Gingerbread Men

1 c. shortening
1 c. sugar
1 c. molasses

1 egg
2 Tbsp. vinegar
5 c. all-purpose flour
1½ tsp. baking soda
½ tsp. salt
2–3 tsp. ground ginger
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
1 tsp. ground cloves
Raisins (optional)
Red-hot candies (optional)
Icing and other decorations (optional)

In a mixing bowl, beat shortening until creamy. Gradually add sugar, beating until light and fluffy. Add molasses, egg, and vinegar; mix well.

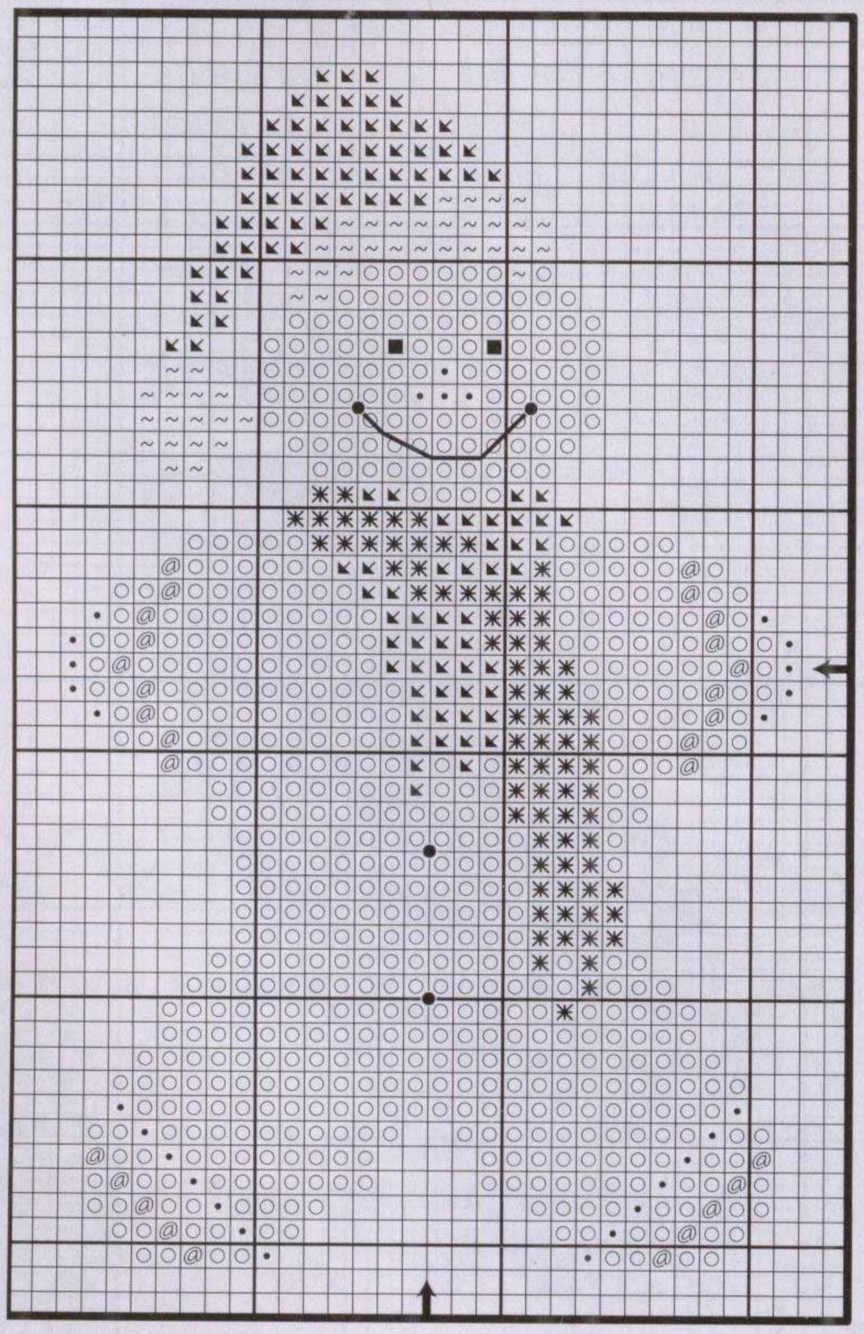
In a medium bowl, combine flour, soda, salt, and spices; stir well. Add to the molasses mixture, mixing well. Shape the dough into a ball; knead until smooth and chill overnight.

Preheat oven to 375°.

Divide dough in half; place one portion back in the refrigerator. On a lightly floured surface, roll dough to ¼" thickness. Cut with a 4-inch gingerbread man cookie cutter; place on ungreased cookie sheets. Place raisins for the eyes and nose and red-hot candies for the cheeks and buttons down his vest. Bake for 6–7 minutes.

Cool and decorate.

Makes about 18 gingerbread men.



©2008 The Stitchworks, Ltd.

Gingerbread Boy Ornament

GINGERBREAD BOY ORNAMENT

Designed by Cindy and David Morrill of The Stitchworks, Ltd.

Fabric: 9" x 8" piece 18-count lambswool linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 49H x 30W
Design size: 5½" x 3⅓"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of pearl cotton. Work half cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of Fizz.

Attach buttons, using two strands of coordinating floss.

Attach jingle bell, using two strands of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Twisted-cording trim and hanger are made from DMC® 319 and blanc pearl cotton and The Stitchworks 7300 Fizz.

DMC® Anchor® Pearl Cotton #5

■	3371	382	black brown
↙	319	1044	pistachio green, vy. dk.
○	434	310	brown, lt.

Rainbow Gallery Gold Rush 18

@	GD134C	deep emerald

Rainbow Gallery Cresta d' Oro

•	C60	white

The Stitchworks™ Fizz

~	7300	white (half cross stitch)
✳	3730	red (half cross stitch)

The Stitchworks™ Buttons

- heart buttons (4)

The Stitchworks™
small gold jingle bell

The Stitchworks, Ltd.
6011 South Sheridan Road
Tulsa, OK 74145
e-mail: *mail@stitchworks.com*
Web site: *www.stitchworks.com*

Sue Hillis Designs

Sue Hillis

When my family sets our Christmas table this year, there will be an empty chair in honor of my dad, who died in January at the age of 95. It was my dad who helped form my Christmas tradition that one can never have too many Christmas trees!

My earliest Christmas memory is Dad taking us kids out to find just the right tree to decorate. It had to be a "cut and run" because he was not going to pay good money for a tree when there were so many growing in the fields of Monterey County! Monterey scrub pines were about the only option, and they were not exactly the perfect shape. But we would hunt for hours looking for our tree, finally settling on the one that came closest to being somewhat triangular shaped. We tied it to the top of our red and white '52 Mercury station wagon and headed home.

Then, the work really began! Dad would haul his tools out of the workshop and address the task at hand. He would trim the tree of all the too-long or too-low branches and put them neatly in a pile. Then, he would put the tree in its stand and walk around it to see where he should begin. Finally deciding, he would plug in his trusty drill and start drilling strategically placed holes. He would then carefully select a branch from the pile, trim it to the appropriate size with his pocket knife, and glue it into the drilled hole. After an hour or so of this activity, we finally had the most perfect Christmas tree in the world, thanks to the talents of my dad.

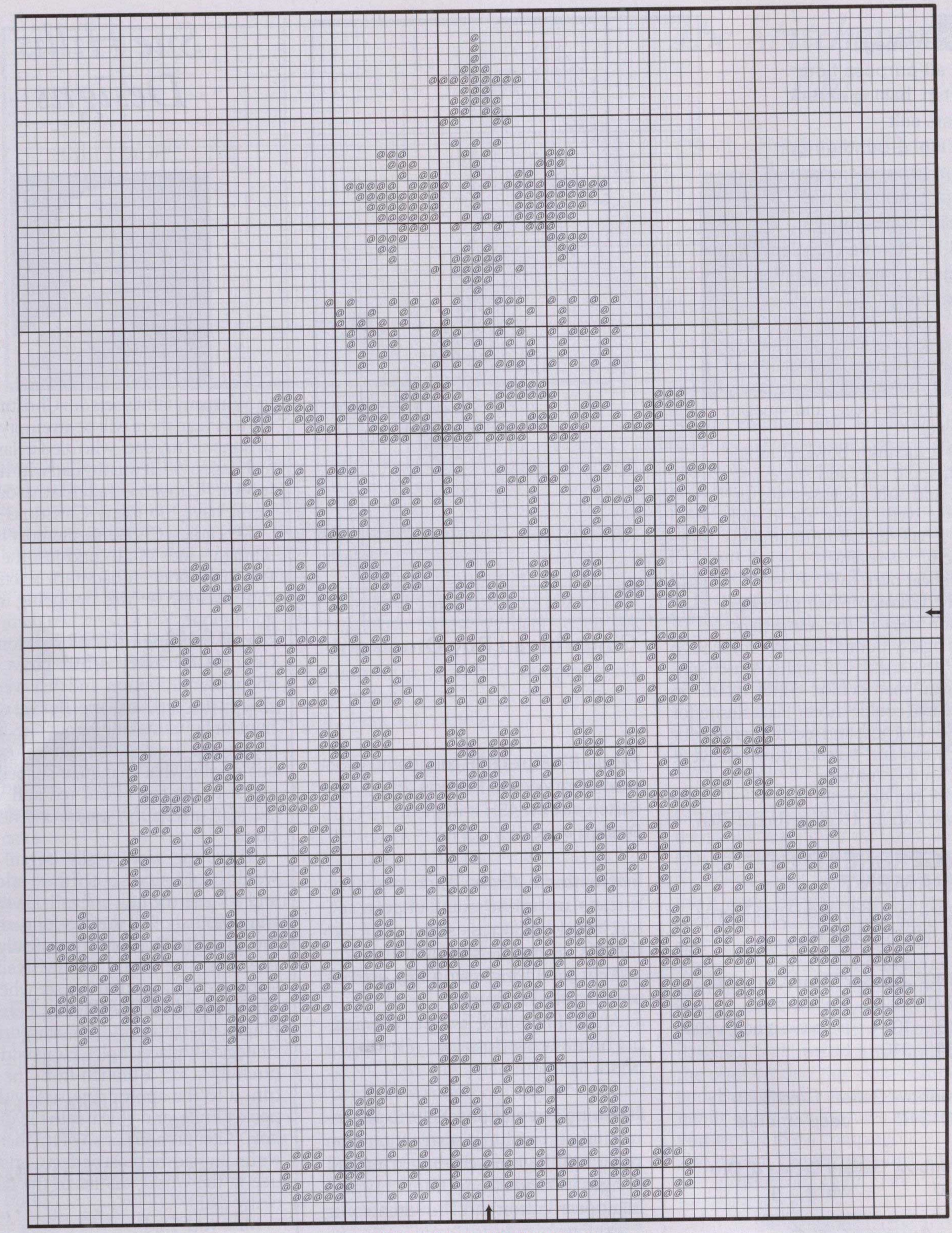
Miss you, Dad!

MERRIEST CHRISTMAS

Designed by Sue Hillis of Sue Hillis Designs

The Gentle Art Simply Shaker Sampler Threads™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

@	7054 (blanc)	chalk



©2008 Sue Hillis Designs

Merriest Christmas

Fabric: 9" x 8" piece 25-count Christmas red Lugana® from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 111H x 83W
Design size: 4 1/2" x 3 1/3"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one thread, using one strand of floss. Personalize, if desired, using a favorite cross-stitch alphabet.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Backing made using white felt. Hanger and bow made using 3/8"-wide white satin ribbon.

Sue Hillis Designs
11610 Busy Street
Richmond, VA 23236
e-mail: *suehillisdesigns@aol.com*
Web site: *www.suehillisdesigns.net*

The Sunflower Seed

Anita Boatright

This will be my fourth and final design in this ornament series featuring my favorite Christmas song "Do You Hear What I Hear?" I hope you have enjoyed stitching them as much as I have enjoyed designing them for you.

The busy holiday season is upon us all with much to do and prepare for. My mother always did so much cooking and baking; there were trays and trays of sweets sitting anywhere there was a flat surface. The freezer was bursting with all kinds of candies, cookies, cinnamon, orange and cherry rolls, nut breads, and pies. She was the best baker in the world! When I was 12 or 13 years old, and I decided to try my hand at baking an angel food cake from scratch. Mom made everything look so easy, I just thought, heck, I can do this and surprise her. I measured carefully, mixed the batter and poured it into the pan, and popped it in the oven and set the timer. The house started smelling "heavenly" as any respectible angel food cake should smell, so I checked on its progess. Time was up, and I was mortified—that darned thing had barely changed height although it was done. Instead of throwing my disaster in the trash, for some odd reason, I wrapped it up in tin foil and buried it in the bottom of our International Harvester deep freezer.

Somewhere around June or July, Mom was cleaning out the freezer and came across my "masterpiece." She was curious where it had came from. I confessed, and we had a pretty good laugh. As it turned out, I learned a lot from watching her bake and can make a pretty good cake now! However, I simply would rather pick up my needle and thread and create something with much fewer calories.

A SONG, A SONG

Designed by Anita Boatright
of The Sunflower Seed

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads™

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥	0360 (815)	cranberry
☆	0910 (3810)	peacock
■	1170 (3371)	dark chocolate
X	0110 (3362)	dried thyme
ℓ	0150 (522)	evergreen
@	0120 (501)	pine

Rainbow Gallery
Treasure Petite Braid™

•	PB10	white pearl
	PB01	bright gold

DMC® Anchor®

3371	382	black brown

Mill Hill Petite Seed Beads

○	40557	gold

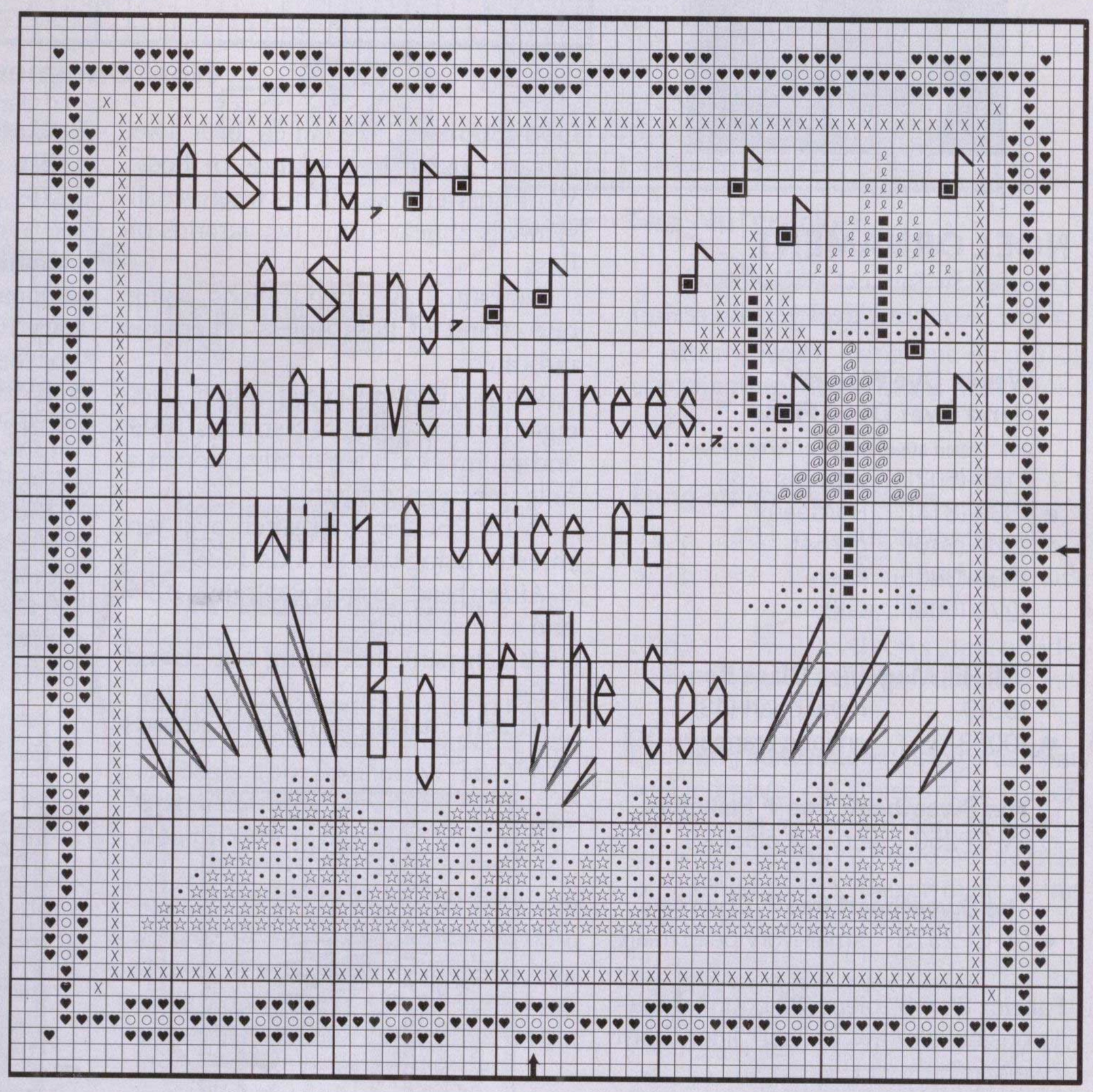
Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count ivory linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 62H x 62W
Design size: 3⅞" x 3⅞"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of braid.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand 3371/382.

Work long stitch, using one strand of braid.

For border, attach beads in groups of four, using one strand of coordinating floss and a long stitch.



A Song, A Song

©2008 The Sunflower Seed

Long-stitch instructions:

PB10 gray lines

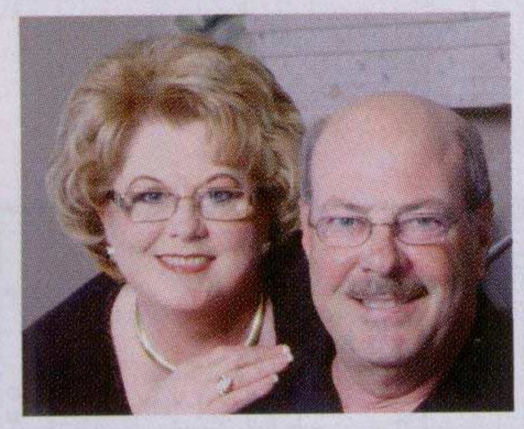
PB01 black lines

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Trim and hanger made using purchased gold ribbon and trim.

The Sunflower Seed
4004 South West Huntoon
Topeka, KS 66604
e-mail: *sunflowerseed3@juno.com*
Web site: *www.thesunflowerseed.com*

The Sweetheart Tree™

Sandra Cox Vanosdall



Merry Christmas!

NOEL ORNAMENT

Designed by Sandra Cox Vanosdall of The Sweetheart Tree™

Weeks Dye Works™ Hand Over Dyed Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X	2153 (502)	cypress
■	1339 (814)	Bordeaux
@	2264 (816)	garnet
	1094 (3865)	linen
	1279 (500)	holly

Mill Hill Magnifica Glass Beads

◊	10010	royal pearl (43)
♥	10033	antique cranberry (18)

The Sweetheart Tree™ Paillettes

○	SV-CP250	crystal clear (7)

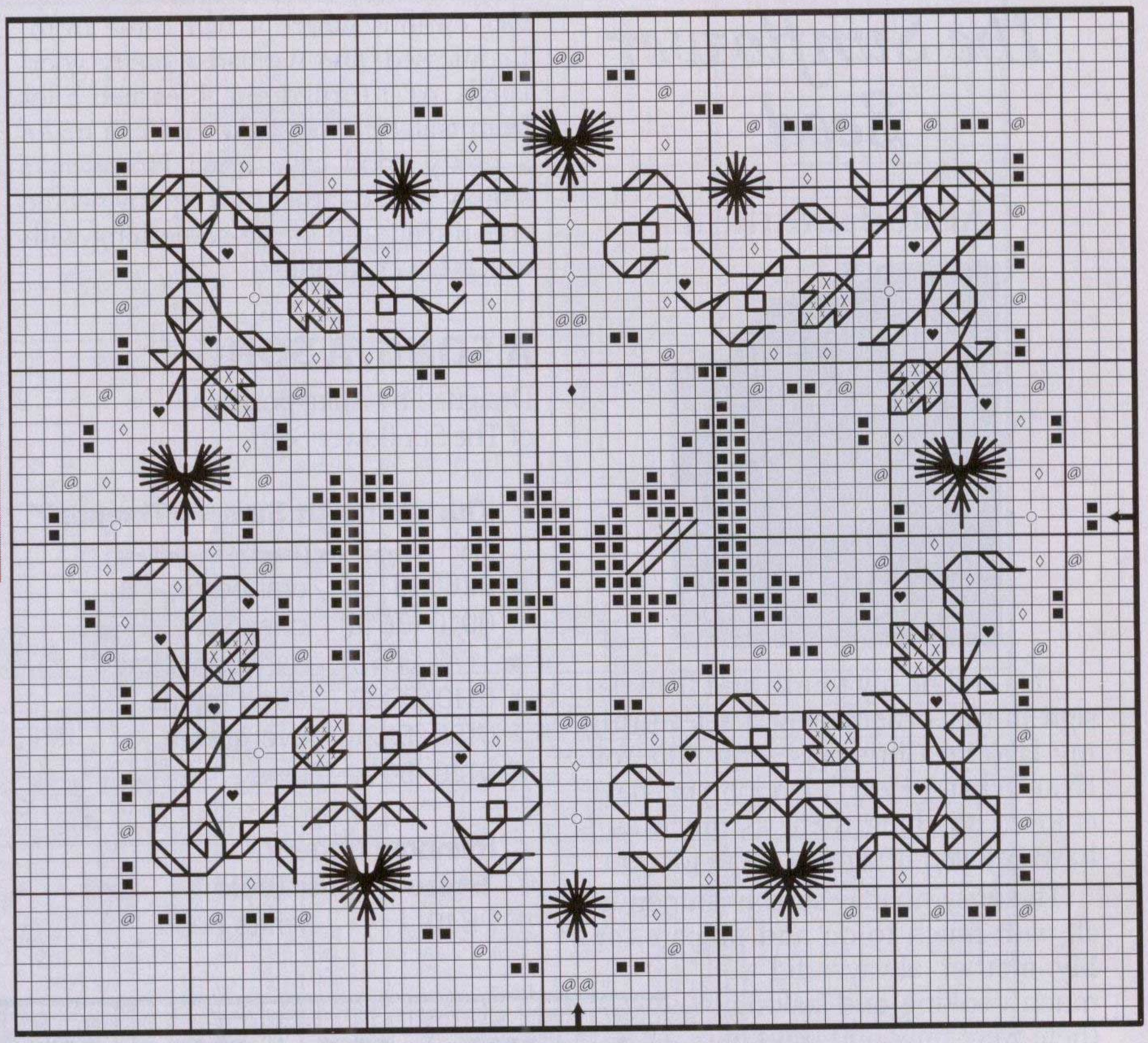
The Sweetheart Tree™ Charms

◆	SV-CP257S	small ivory pearl heart

Fabric: 8" x 8" piece 32-count metallic opalescent/raw Belfast® linen from Zweigart®

Stitch count: 54H x 60W

Design size: 3 3/8" x 3 3/4"



©2008 The Sweetheart Tree™

Noel Ornament

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Work quarter cross stitches where small symbols appear, using two strands of floss.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss unless otherwise indicated.

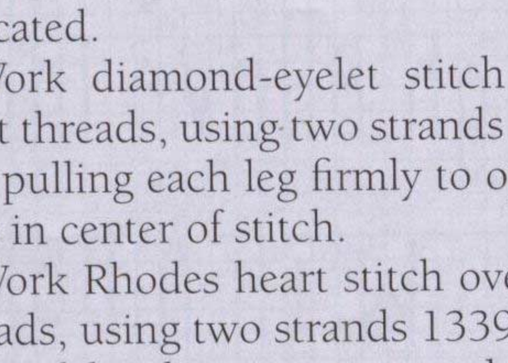
Work diamond-eyelet stitch over eight threads, using two strands 1094 and pulling each leg firmly to open a hole in center of stitch.

Work Rhodes heart stitch over ten threads, using two strands 1339.

Attach beads, using two strands 1094 and a cross stitch.

Attach paillettes, using one strand 1094.

Attach charm, using two strands 1094.



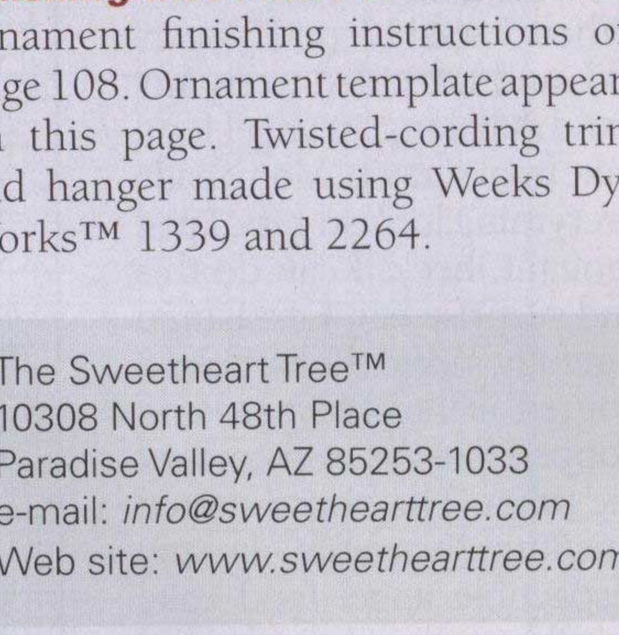
Rhodes-Heart Stitch

Backstitch instructions:

1339	"e" in *noel* (two strands)
1279	remaining backstitch

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Ornament template appears on this page. Twisted-cording trim and hanger made using Weeks Dye Works™ 1339 and 2264.

The Sweetheart Tree™
10308 North 48th Place
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253-1033
e-mail: *info@sweethearttree.com*
Web site: *www.sweethearttree.com*



Diamond-Eyelet Stitch (Over Eight)

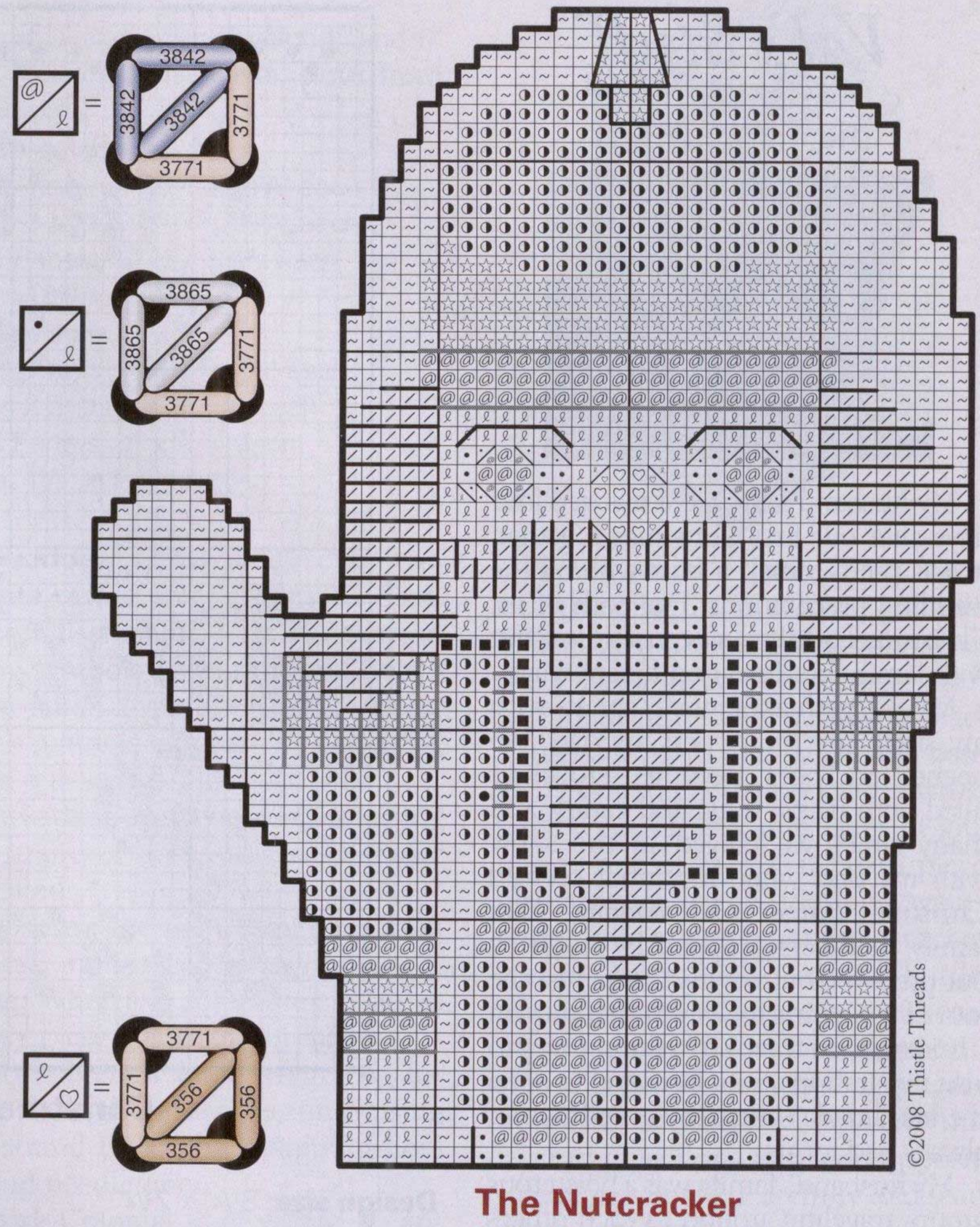
Thistle Threads

Tricia Wilson Nguyen

This year, I plan to share a Christmas memory with my oldest son for the first time. We are fortunate to live in a large metropolitan area where there are large theater, dance, and music companies, and I think he is now old enough to start enjoying these pleasures, adding to our holiday rituals.

When I moved to this area for college, I was thrilled to attend my first performance of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* by the Boston Ballet. Like most versions of the show performed around the country, young dancers join the troupe to fill the roles of the children, mice, and other creatures. I greatly enjoyed the lights, colors, and sound, but I think I may have enjoyed the costumes and the gilded hall the ballet was performed in the most.

A few years ago, I took my niece to the *The Nutcracker* as her first introduction to the fine performing arts. Dressed as fancy as Clara, she hung on the railing of our balcony seats, eyes wide with excitement. I hope that my son, already a great lover of much of the historic pomp and pageantry that fills our town, will embrace this performance as well. I predict that he will be entranced by the Christmas tree that grows from the stage to fill the hall and will pretend to be a toy soldier once we return home. I hope he will add *The Nutcracker* to his own list of special Christmas memories.



The Nutcracker

THE NUTCRACKER

Designed by Tricia Wilson Nguyen of Thistle Threads

	DMC®	Anchor®	
/	3024	388	brown gray, vy. lt.
♡	356	1013	terra cotta, med.
ℓ	3771	882	terra cotta, ul. vy. lt.
♭	169	850	pewter, lt.
•	3865	2	winter white
@	3842	164	Wedgwood, dk.
■	310	403	black
◑	304	19	red, med.
~	3761	928	sky blue, lt.

DMC® Light Effects

☆	E3821	gold, lt.

Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4

	321J	Japan gold, dk.

Rainbow Gallery Petite Alpaca

	PB61	gray

Mill Hill Glass Seed Beads

◊	00557	gold

Fabric: One package #T07-03 Trinkets™ Mitten 18-count perforated paper sewing cards from Tokens and Trifles™
Stitch count: 61H x 46W
Design size: 3½" x 2⅝"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one square, using two strands of floss. (**Note:** Where small symbols appear, work a diagonal, a vertical, and a horizontal backstitch. Refer to illustrations above.)

Work long stitch, using one strand of very fine braid or two strands PB61, unless otherwise indicated.

Attach beads, using one strand of coordinating floss and a half cross stitch.

Long-stitch instructions:

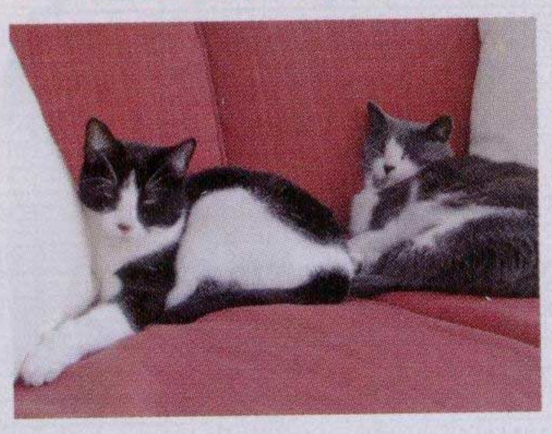
310	403	teeth, trousers
321J		jacket and hat details (gray lines)
PB61		eyebrows (one strand); hair, beard, mustache

Finishing instructions: Using ornament as a template, cut a piece of cardstock or decorative scrapbook paper to same size. Lightly glue to wrong side of stitched piece. Hanger made using Kreink #321J Very Fine Braid #4.

Thistle Threads
6 Upland Road West
Arlington, MA 02474
e-mail: *thistlethreads@comcast.net*
Web site: *www.thistle-threads.com*

Val's Stuff

Valerie Danish



My husband and I were married four days after our first Christmas together. It was pretty much a blur with all the wedding preparations. For both of us, Christmas had always been a time spent with family, but in very different ways.

My Christmases were spent with my sister, my mom, and my dad. We opened packages, devoured stockings filled with fruits, nuts, and candy, and many times we played in the snow with my dad while my mom cooked Christmas dinner. Occasionally, other family members dropped by to check out presents, but mostly it was just the four of us sharing the day. Sometimes on Christmas, we traveled to the country to visit my grandparents' farm and to open the handmade things my grandmother always had for us.

My husband's family was a boisterous group, traveling around to each other's homes and eating food at each one until they could barely crawl into bed at the end of the day. The presents filled the house on Christmas morning.

This ornament bag is the perfect size for a small gift.

CHRISTMAS IS A TIME TO SHARE

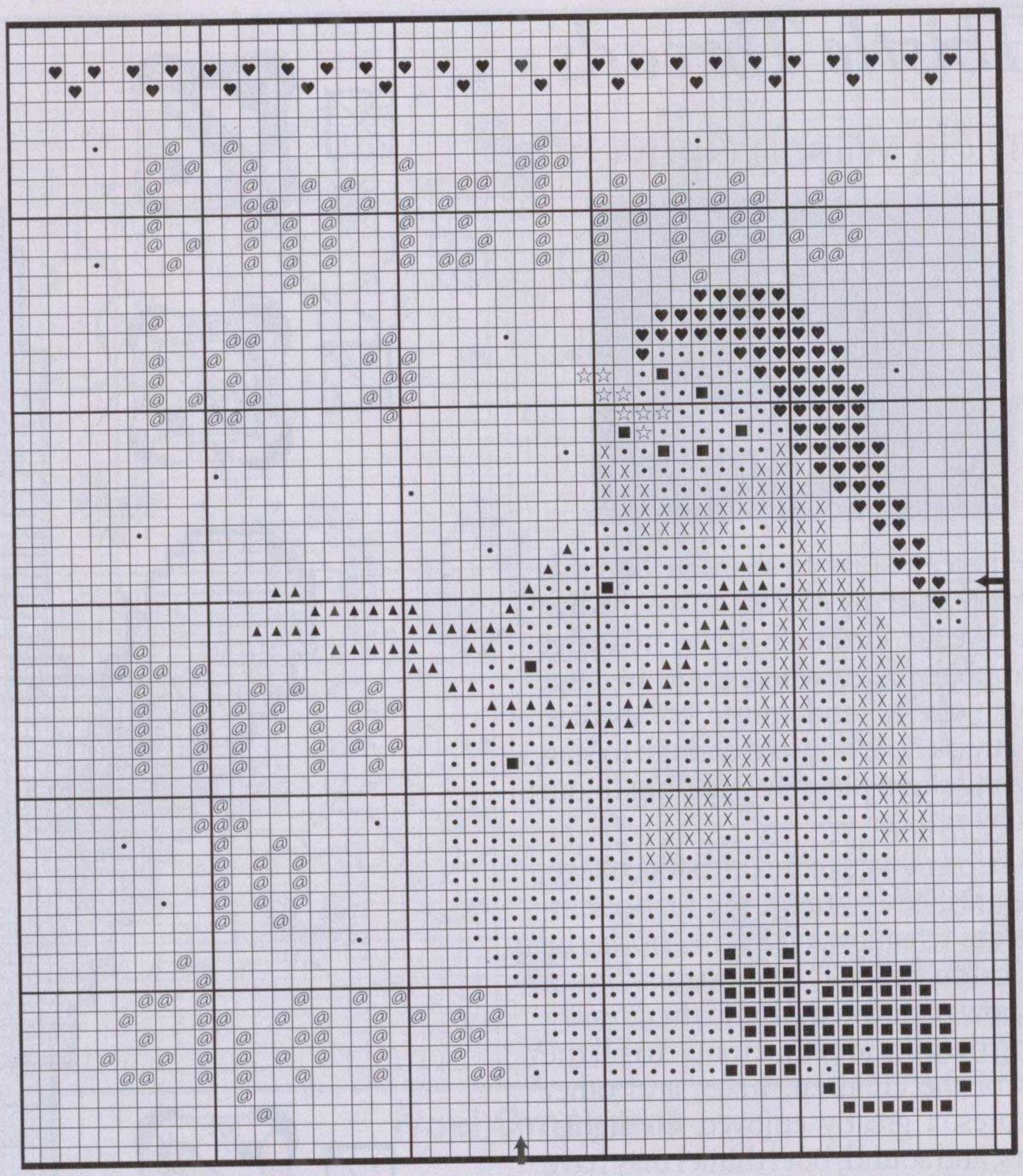
Designed by Valerie Danish of Val's Stuff

Weeks Dye Works™
Hand Over Dyed Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X	4139 (n/a)	Bethlehem
•	4125 (blanc)	snowflake
■	2103 (310)	peacoat
▲	1326 (902)	rust
@	2153 (501)	cypress
☆	2226 (722)	carrot
♥	2264 (498)	garnet

Just Another Button Company™
4454.S small green gift

Fabric: 8" x 7" piece 35-count dark espresso linen from R&R Reproductions
Stitch count: 56H x 47W



©2008 Val's Stuff

Christmas is a Time to Share

Design size: 3 1/4" x 2 3/4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Attach button, using two strands of coordinating floss and referring to photo for placement.

Finishing materials and instructions:
4" x 5" piece muslin
1/8 yd. coordinating decorator fabric
10"-length 3/4"-wide coordinating wired ribbon
Sewing machine (optional)

Press stitched piece from back, straightening as much as possible. (**Note:** Do not use steam as colors may run.) Trim stitched piece to 3/4" from stitching on all sides. Using trimmed piece as a template, cut one piece from muslin and three pieces from decorator fabric.

Place muslin against wrong side of stitched piece; baste together. Place one piece of decorator fabric atop stitched piece with right sides together. Sew around sides and bottom, using a 1/4" seam allowance. Turn right-side out and press.

To create lining, place remaining two pieces of decorator fabric with right sides together. Sew together along long sides only, using a 1/4" seam allowance, and leaving the bottom open.

Turn stitched piece wrong-side out. Place lining inside pocket with stitched piece, right sides together. Carefully align top edges and side seams; pin in place. Sew together along top edge, using a 1/4" seam allowance. Remove pins. Turn right-side out and press. Press under 1/4" seam allowance at bottom of lining and sew closed. Push the lining into the pocket and press top edge. Tie knots at each end of wired ribbon. Attach at top corners to create handle for bag.

Val's Stuff
106 Cobblestone Hills
O'Fallon, IL 62269
e-mail: *valsstuff@wisperhome.com*
Web site:
members.papadocs.com/valsstuff/

The Victoria Sampler

Thea Dueck

"Merry Christmas from Our House to Yours..." Christmas is a time when we dream of enjoying our snug homes, surrounded by our friends and family. This year, I had the idea of designing a three-dimensional ornament shaped like one of the little houses in my "Christmas Village" design. The little yellow house featured here is one of several colored Christmas House ornaments I designed. You'll find the rest in our *Beautiful Finishing* leaflet due to be released at the same time. On the side of each little house, you'll find a little design or saying. There is snow on the black roof, and a personalization is stitched on the base. Stitch this beautiful little miniature house ornament and then collect them all for your mantel or for your Christmas tree!

A MERRY LITTLE HOUSE

Designed by Thea Dueck
of The Victoria Sampler

Kreinik Silk Mori

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥	3017 (347)	coral, vy. dk.
•	8000 (blanc)	soft white
■	8050 (310)	black
	3063 (352)	henna, lt.

Gloriana Threads Silk Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

X	115 (n/a)	topiary
ℓ	116 (3052)	olive green
@	117 (935)	Elizabethan green

The Caron Collection Waterlilies®

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

○	139 (n/a)	kelp

Needlepoint Inc. Silk Floss

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

☆	0473 (3821)	gold

Fabric: 14" x 9" piece 28-count golden harvest Jazlyn from Zweigart® and 6" x 5" piece black Quaker cloth from Zweigart®

Stitch count:
Sides 1 and 3: 46H x 18W each
Sides 2 and 4: 41H x 18W each
Roof Panels: 13H x 18W each
Base: 18H x 18W each

Design size:
Sides 1 and 3: 3 1/3" x 1 1/3" each
Sides 2 and 4: 3" x 1 1/3" each
Roof Panels: 1" x 1 1/3" each
Base: 1 1/3" x 1 1/3" each

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. (**Note:** Offset stitch by one fabric thread where symbols appear on grid lines.) Cross stitch over one thread where small symbols appear for lettering, using one strand 115.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss, unless otherwise indicated.

Work straight stitch, using one strand of floss, unless otherwise indicated. (**Note:** When two colors are bracketed together, use one strand of each.)

Work French knot where • appears for snowman's buttons, using one strand 8050 and wrapping floss around needle once.

Work Colonial knot where ● appears for flowers on Back, using two strands 3017.

Personalize base of house, if desired, using one strand 115 and a favorite cross-stitch alphabet over one thread.

Backstitch instructions:

117	all vines, tree on Side 2
0473	outer borders on Sides 1–4
8050	snowman's arms (two strands); snowman's eyes; outer borders on Roof panels

Straight-stitch instructions:

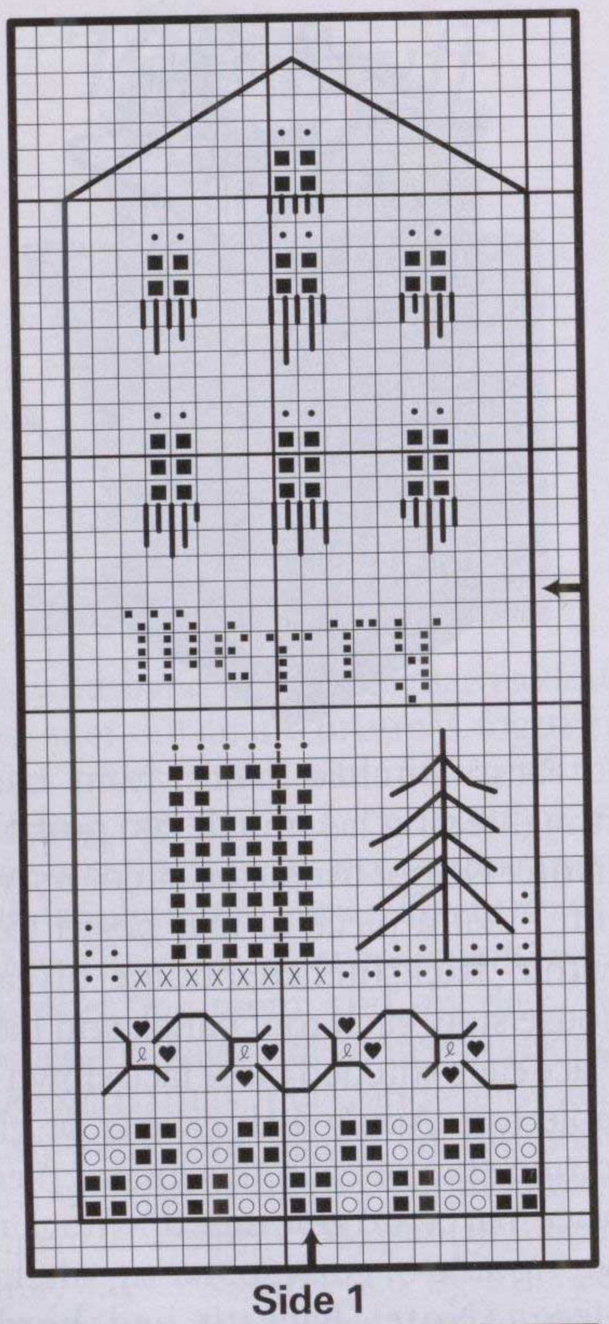
8000	all icicles
8050	snowman's hat
3063	snowman's nose (two strands)
117	tree on Side 1

Finishing materials and instructions:
Four 1 1/2" x 3 1/2" pieces two-ply mat board
X-Acto knife
Craft glue
6"-length twisted cording (Model uses DMC® blanc pearl cotton #12.)

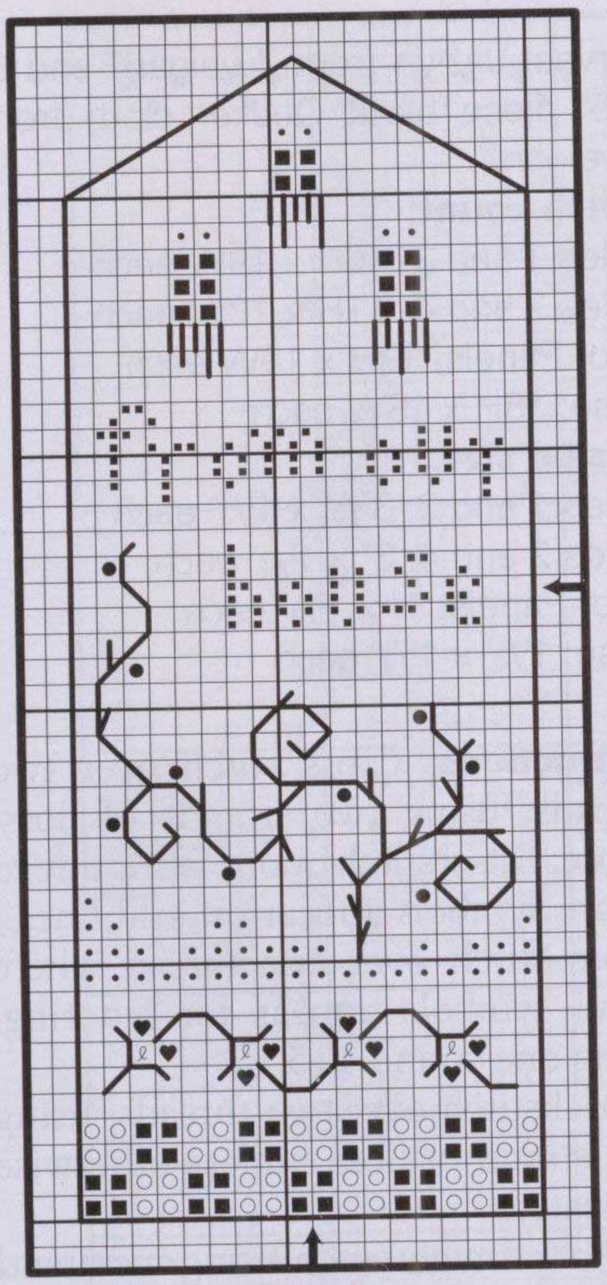
Press stitched piece from back, straightening as much as possible. (**Note:** Do not use steam as colors may run.) Cut a piece of mat board to fit within backstitched outline of each house side, each roof panel, and base. Place each stitched piece face-down on table top. Apply a thin layer of glue to one side of each mat-board piece; place mat board glue-side down against wrong side of corresponding stitched piece. (**Note:** Backstitched border should fall on side edge of mat board when linen is folded over to opposite side.) Let dry. Trim stitched piece to 1/2" from edge of matboard. Spread a thin layer of glue along edges on opposite side of mat board. Carefully fold seam allowance over mat board, pressing into glue and mitering corners. Repeat for all remaining sides and roof pieces; allow to dry overnight.

Using two strands 8000, lace roof pieces together through center border, lacing through each backstitch until centerpoint is reached. (**Note:** Lacing stitches never pierce fabric.) Fold twisted-cording length in half to form a loop and secure ends together. Tuck ends of loop into centerpoint of roof and continue lacing roof panels together; set roof aside. Using two strands 0473, join sides of house together, lacing through each backstitch in border. Align base with bottom edge of house; lace together through backstitches. Set roof atop sides of house, aligning edges. Lace together through backstitched borders, using two strands 8050.

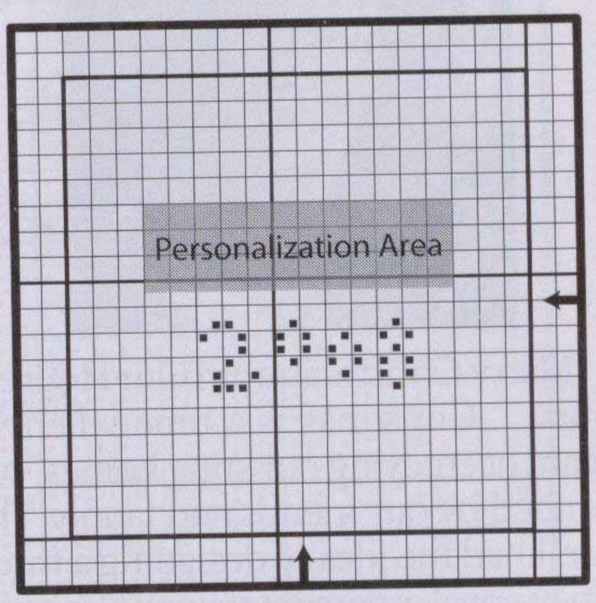
The Victoria Sampler
8700 Aldous Terrace
Sidney, BC V8L 1L2
Canada
e-mail: *thea@victoriasampler.com*
Web site: *www.victoriasampler.com*



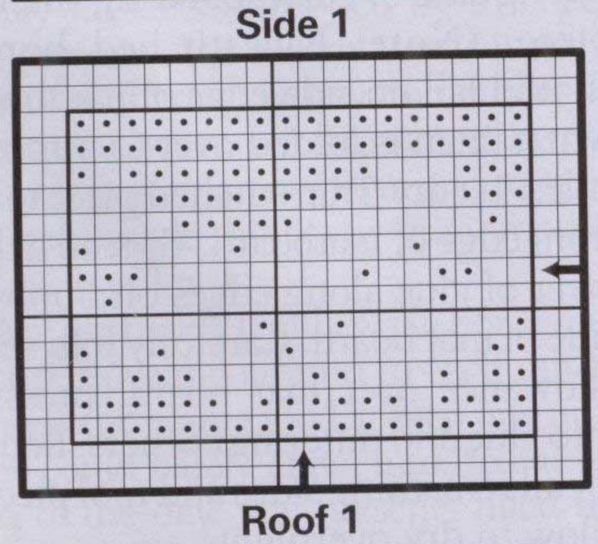
Side 1



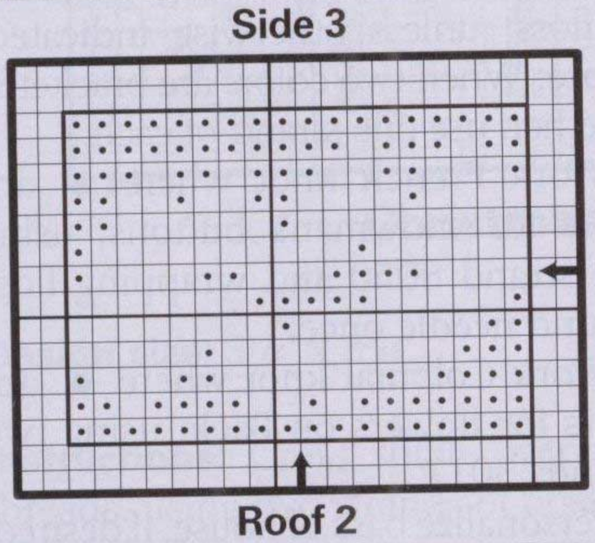
Side 3



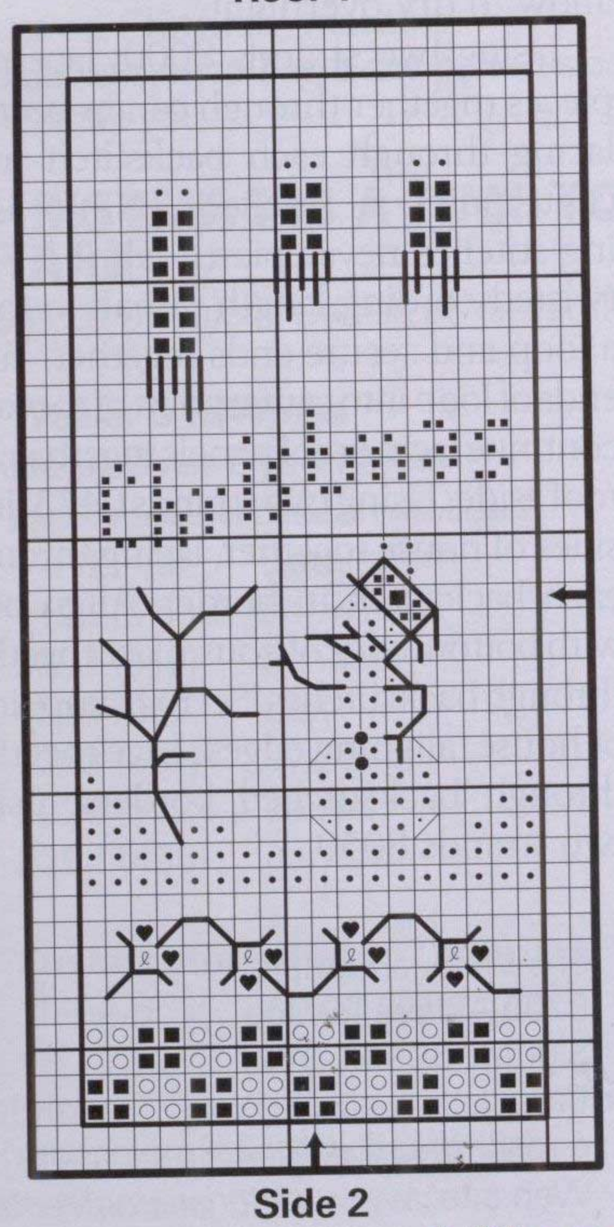
Bottom



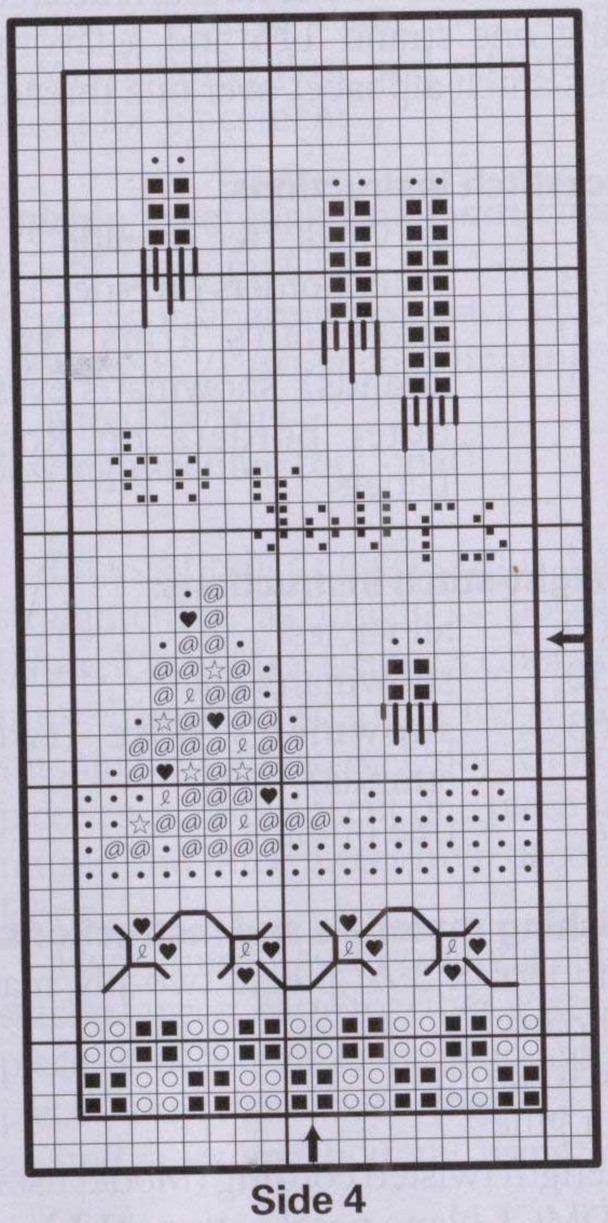
Roof 1



Roof 2



Side 2



Side 4

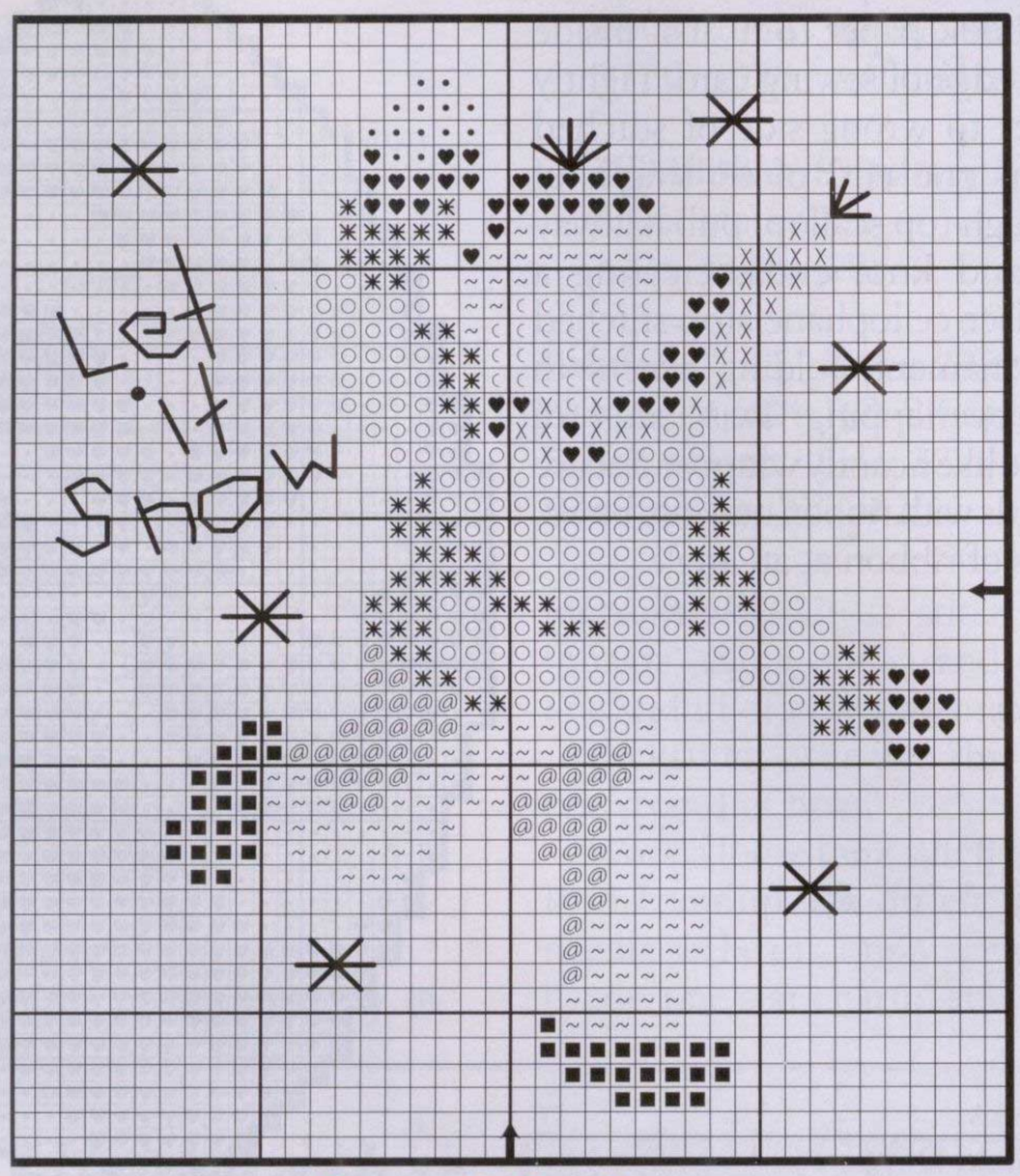
A Merry Little House

Victoria Sampler Designs by Cathy Jean

Cathy Coombes

This is the second of the pair of *Snow Babies* I designed for you this year. The other one, a lovely little girl playing in the snow, is featured in the October 2008 issue of *Just CrossStitch*. "Joey" is named after one of our wonderful grandchildren, and it reminds me of his fun and happy spirit. We don't get snow here on the West Coast very often, but when we do, we love watching all our grandchildren enjoy their snow-time fun! I wish you all a very merry snowy Christmas for 2008!

©2008 The Victoria Sampler



©2008 Victoria Sampler-Designs by Cathy Jean

Snow Baby Joey

SNOW BABY JOEY

Designed by Cathy Coombes
of Victoria Sampler-Designs by Cathy Jean

Kreinik Silk Mori Milkpaint™
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

~	0553 (813)	colonial blue, med.

Kreinik Silk Mori
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

@	5055 (931)	slate blue, med. dk.
○	4204 (3053)	sage, med.
✳	4206 (3051)	sage, dk.

Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4

	032	pearl

Needlepoint Inc. Silk Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

☾	0121 (407)	brick, ul. lt.
■	0964 (645)	dapple gray, med.

Au Ver A Soie Silk Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

♥	4624 (815)	red. dk.

Dinky Dyes Silk Embroidery Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parenteses

X	027 (3832)	bushfire
X	4624 Au Ver A Soie	red, dk.

Access Commodities Appleton Crewel Wool

•	991	white (turkey knot)

Fabric: 8" x 7" piece 32-count white Lugana® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 42H x 36W
Design size: 2⅝" x 2⅛"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. When two colors are bracketed together, use one strand of each color.

Backstitch over two threads for lettering, using one strand 0964.

Work French knot where • appears in lettering, using one strand 0964 and wrapping floss around needle twice.

Work straight stitch, using two strands of floss.

Work turkey knot, using one strand 991. (**Note:** Begin with bottom row and work toward top. Work every row from left to right.) Trim loops to create plush effect for snowball.

Work modified Smyrna cross stitch over six threads for snowflakes, using one strand 032.

Straight stitch instructions:

0553	pom pom on hat
4624	fringe on scarf

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Glue 4½" x 4½" piece of polyester quilt batting to wrong side of ornament. Trim batting edges to ½" from ornament edge on all sides. Twisted cording made using DMC® blanc pearl cotton #8.

Victoria Sampler—
Designs by Cathy Jean
8700 Aldous Terrace
Sidney, BC V8L 1L2
Canada
e-mail: *cathy@victoriasampler.com*
Web site: *www.victoriasampler.com*

Wee Works

Wendy White

"Have you ever heard of the Sugar-Plum tree?" Tis a marvel of great renown!"

As a very young girl, I learned this poem to delight my grandfather and would recite it to him over the phone. "The Sugar Plum Tree" by Eugene Field describes a very special tree adorned with tempting treats on every branch, all of which are guarded by a Chocolate Cat who keeps a wary eye on the excitable Gingerbread Dog. Sugar plums, usually defined as a candy made of sugar in a round or oval shape, have long been associated with Christmas; references include the Sugar Plum Fairy from *The Nutcracker* as well as the poem "'Twas the Night Before Christmas," in which children slumber "while visions of sugar plums danced in their heads." Just picture armfuls of candy in every color and flavor you could imagine—the sweetest of dreams for little ones trying so hard to be good at this time of year.

Christmas is a time for those flights of fantasy, and it is with this in mind that this little "Sugar Plum" ornament was designed. Try stitching a number of them all in different candy colors. String them together as a sweet garland for your tree, or use them individually on a children's tree or wreath. These "Sugar Plums" would also be charming as place cards for your holiday table—simply back the reverse side of your stitching with a stiff card or decorative paper and print the guest's name and the date on it. It becomes a holiday memento for them to keep!

SUGAR PLUM

Designed by Wendy White of Wee Works

DMC® Anchor®

♥ 666 46 red, bt.

Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4

• 032 pearl (half cross stitch)

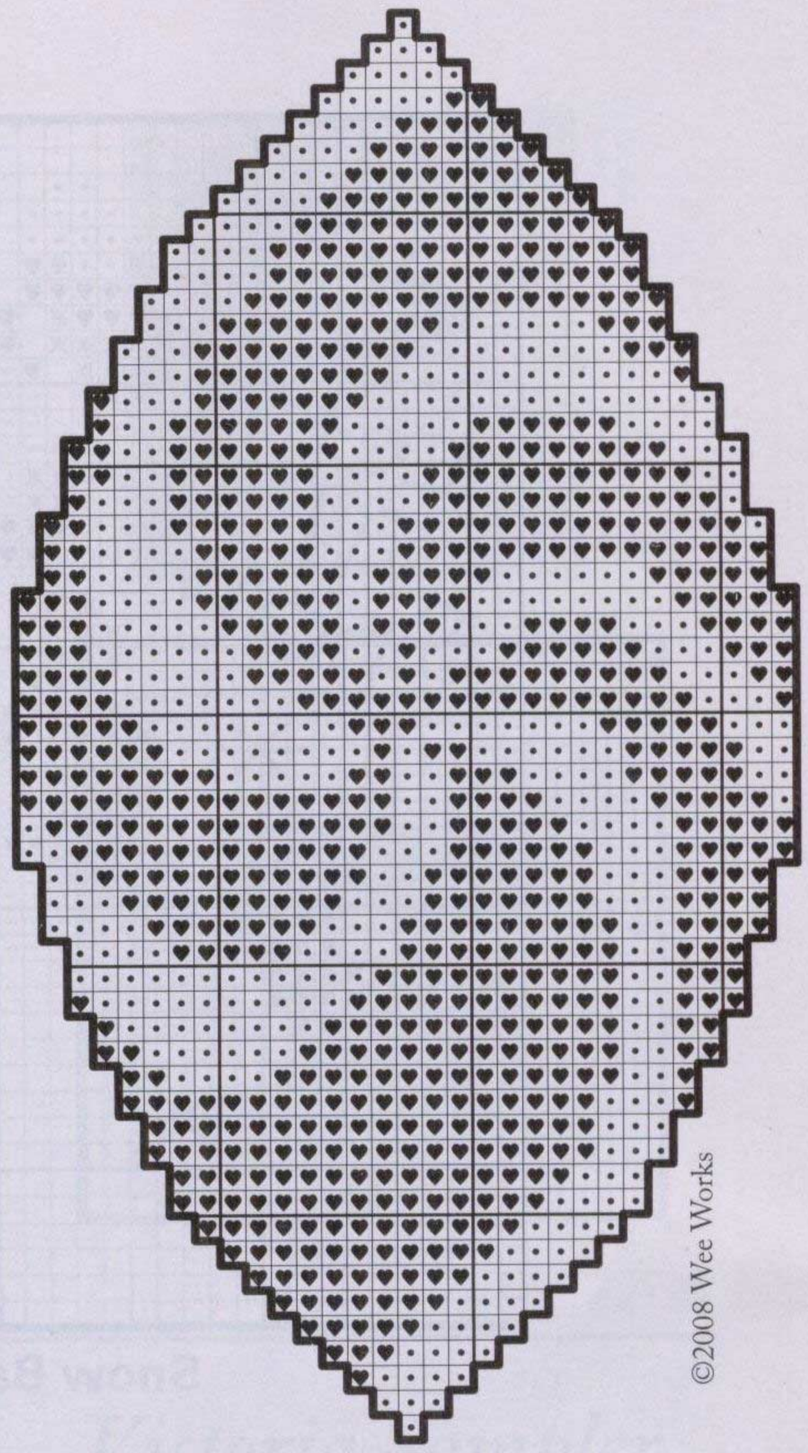
Fabric: One package (#SM1PC) Bon Bon 20-count perforated sewing cards from Tokens and Trifles™
Stitch count: 57H x 31W
Design size: 2⅞" x 1⅝"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one square, using two strands of floss. Work half cross stitch over one square, using one strand of very fine braid.

Finishing materials and instructions:
2" x 3½" piece scrapbook paper
4" x 5½" piece clear cellophane
Two 12"-lengths ¼"-wide red organdy ribbon
6" length coordinating floss (Model uses DMC® E321 Light Effects floss.)
Archival-quality glue

Using stitched piece as a template, cut scrapbook paper to fit just inside scalloped edge of sewing card. Lightly glue paper to wrong side of stitched piece. Slip one end of 6" length of floss through top scallop; pull halfway through and knot ends, creating a hanger. Place cellophane atop stitched side of ornament, folding excess to back and overlapping. Twist ends of cellophane like a candy wrapper. Secure twisted ends with ribbon tied into bows. Trim ends of ribbon at an angle.

Wee Works
1 Greenfield Drive
Sandwich, MA 02563
e-mail: *weworks@mindspring.com*

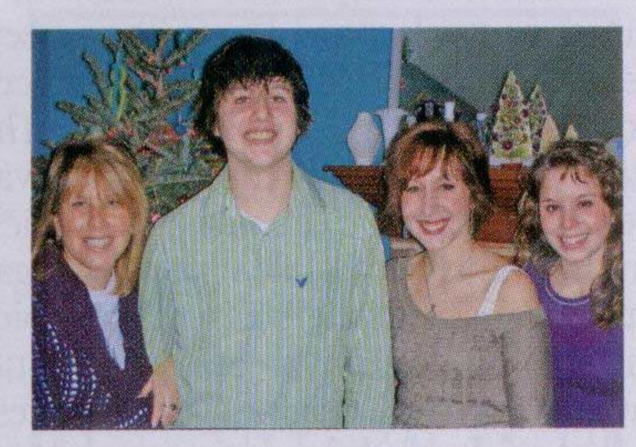


©2008 Wee Works

Sugar Plum

Wildflower Stitchery & More

Koneta Ann Hurlstone



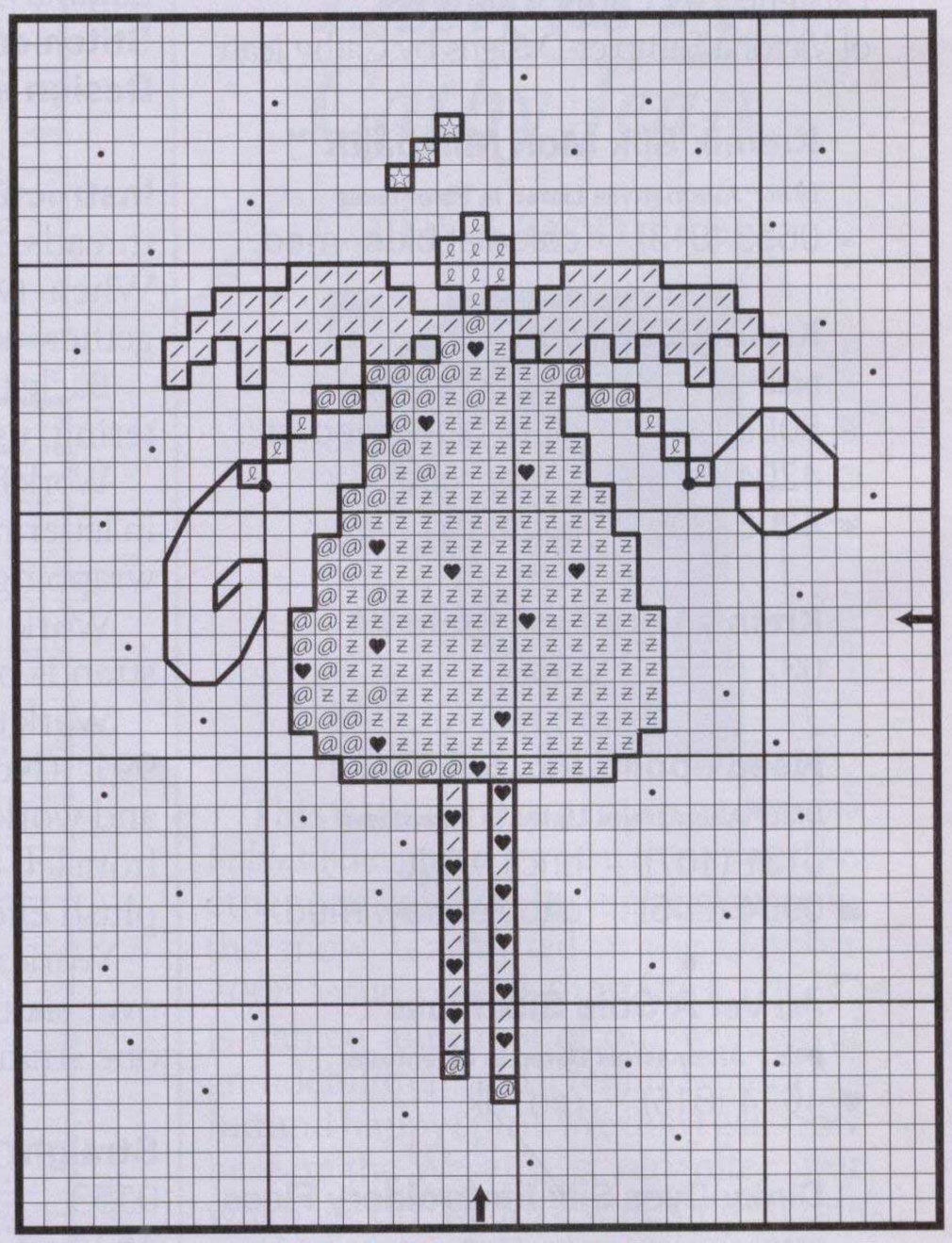
Wildflower Stitchery & More is my new company—well, a company that consists of me and any of my children I can guilt into helping me. "Wildflower" refers not only to my love of wild flowers in general, but also the hope that I still have a bit of "wild" left in me at the age of 50. And if wild can be applied to cooking and mean being really messy and not one to follow recipes, that describes me also.

On Christmas Eve, my parents join my children and me for dinner. It's great because it allows some personal time with them that is not as crazy as the rest of the holiday season can be. I always make my potato soup, by popular request. Here is an approximation of the recipe.

Peel a bag of potatoes. Better yet, get someone else to peel them—it takes much longer than you think and is boring. I use Idaho or Yukon gold.

Fill a large stockpot with chicken broth—usually two big cans. Put in potatoes and cook over medium heat until potatoes are soft. Mash them with potato masher right in the pot with the broth. Too runny? Add more potatoes. Too thick? Add some water.

I season with a random amount of salt, garlic salt, white pepper if I have it (black if I don't), Frank's hot sauce, and some dry sherry—a generous amount of sherry. Then, I add a carton, on the small side, of half-and-half or heavy whipping cream, depending on my mood and weight. Then, I add a stick of butter and cook until desired consistency, stirring when I think of it. It is done when my parents arrive.



©2008 Wildflower Stitchery & More

Wish Upon a Star

I also crumble crispy bacon, slice green onions, and have finely shredded Cheddar cheese in cute little bowls for garnish.

A kit is available for this project. Please go to www.just-crossstitch.com for details.

WISH UPON A STAR

Designed by Koneta Ann Hurlston of Wildflower Stitchery & More

Colours Down Under Stitches & Spice Sampler Thread

DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

ℓ antique rose (224)
♥ enchantment (3687)
@ peacock fantasy (806)
ƶ ocean waves (598)
/ angel wings (3823)
☆ golden wattle (3822)

Kreinik Very Fine Braid #4

• 5555 oyster

DMC® Anchor®

3772	1007	desert sand, vy. dk.
3808	1068	turquoise, ul. vy. dk.
3750	1036	antique blue, vy. dk.

Wildflower Stitchery & More

silver stars (2)
silver beads (20)

Fabric: 8" x 7" piece 28-count beach plum linen from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 45H x 32W
Design size: 3¼" x 2⅓"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss or one strand of very fine braid.

Backstitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Work a loose long stitch for star garland: come up at • on left; thread onto needle six beads, one star charm, eight beads, one star charm, and remaining six beads; sink needle at • on right. Couch garland down at stars, referring to photo for placement.

Backstitch instructions:

3772	1007	head and arms
3808	1068	dress and legs
5555		wings and halo

Finishing instructions: Refer to pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Trim and hanger made using Gloriana #134 summer 'n smoke 4mm silk ribbon.

Wildflower Stitchery & More
1771 Kettle Run Court
Perrysburg, OH 43551
e-mail: *wildflowerstitchery@bex.net*

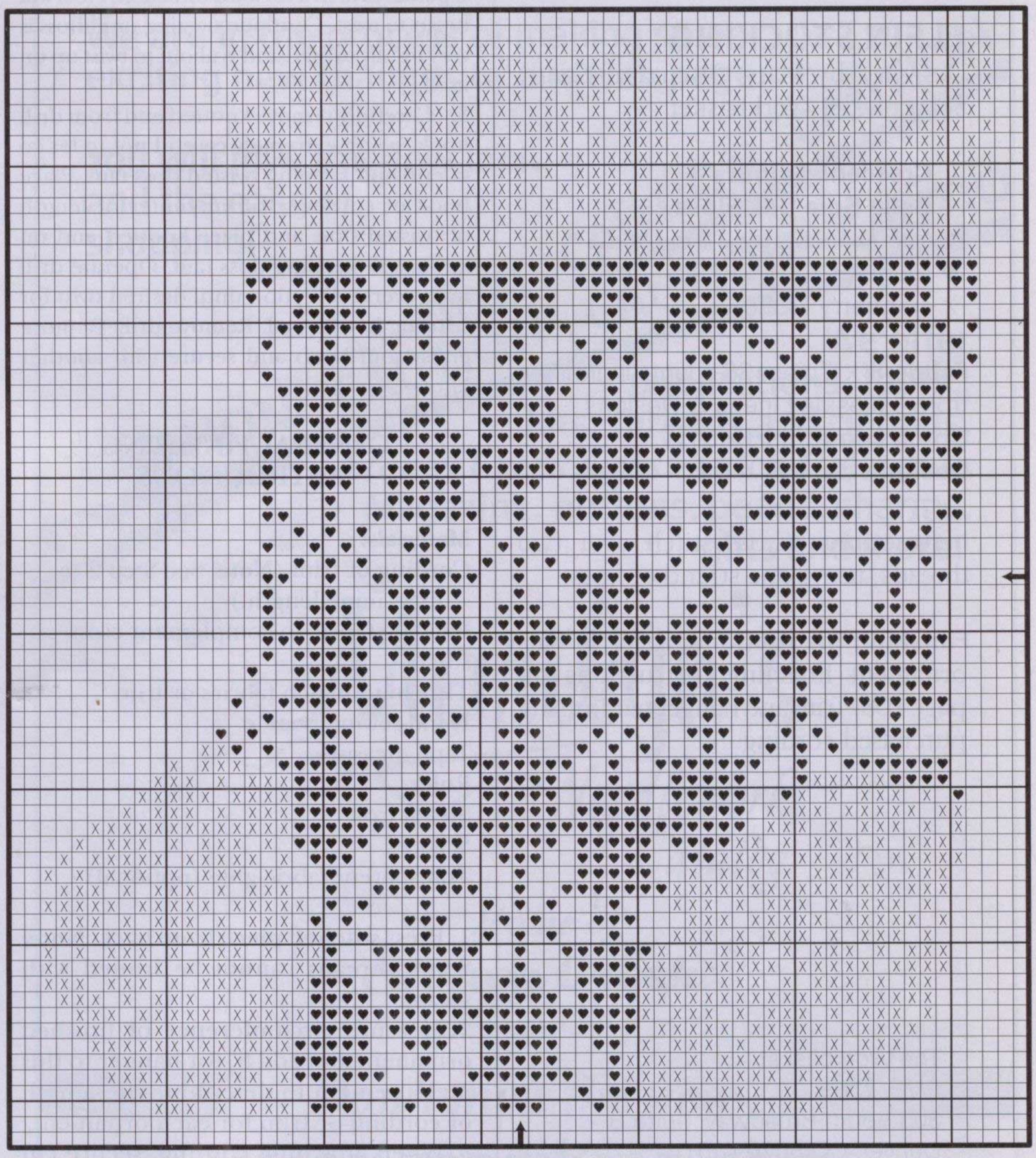
The Workbasket

Candy Scott and Mary Olsen

This soup is a great, homey meal to serve to friends during the holidays. Because there are so many steps, you get some time to visit in between. Try cutting up everything before guests arrive and put together in separate bowls to add as the steps direct. My friends always rave about this chunky, filling soup. It is fun to experiment with different sausages and beans and to throw in other veggies, too. My favorite add-ins are chorizo, black beans, green beans, and spinach.

Roasted Sausage and Tortellini Soup

1½ lbs. sausage
1 c. chopped onion
1 Tbsp. chopped garlic
Ground black pepper to taste
2 Tbsp. olive oil
4 c. beef broth
2 c. water
Italian seasoning to taste



Elfin Stocking

©2008 The Workbasket

1½ c. thinly sliced carrots
1 (16-oz.) can crushed tomatoes
1 (15.5-oz.) can dark kidney beans
1 (6-oz.) can sliced black olives
2 c. sliced zucchini
1 (16-oz.) pkg. tri-color tortellini, cooked al dente
Crusty bread (optional)
Parmesan cheese (optional)

Preheat oven to 400°.

In a large ovenproof Dutch oven, combine sausage, onion, garlic, pepper, and olive oil. Roast uncovered for 20–30 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Reduce heat to 325°. Add broth, water, seasoning, and carrots. Cover and bake for 30 minutes. Stir in tomatoes, beans, olives, and zucchini. Return to oven and bake for 15–20 minutes. Add tortellini and bake for 5 minutes.

Serve with crusty bread and garnish with parmesan cheese.

ELFIN STOCKING

Designed by Mary Olsen and Candy Scott of The Workbasket

Crescent Colours
Belle Soie Silk Floss
DMC® Alternatives Listed in Parentheses

♥ rouge (815)
X cranberry (3350)

Fabric: 8" x 7" piece 36-count tundra linen from Lakeside Linens & Designs
Stitch count: 69H x 61W
Design size: 3⅞" x 3½"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss.

Finishing instructions: Refer to flat-ornament finishing instructions on page 108. Trim and hanger made using purchased cording.

The Workbasket
PMB #389
303 South Broadway, Suite B
Denver, CO 80209-1511
e-mail: *candy@theworkbasket.net*
Web site: *www.theworkbasket.net*

TWISTED-CORDING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:
Embroidery floss, pearl cotton, or other fiber to complement stitchery (**Note:** To determine amount needed, see Step 1. Refer to ornament color code for specific color and fiber used.)
Mini cording drill

NOTE: Cording can be made by one person; however, the procedure can be awkward at times, especially when dealing with long lengths of floss—an extra set of hands is always helpful.

1. To determine the amount of floss needed, multiply by three the desired length of the cording, making sure to include any length needed for hangers when finishing ornaments. Place all lengths of floss together and tie a knot in each end.
2. Slip one knotted end of floss onto hook of cording drill. Slip other knotted end over a small knob. Pull drill so that floss is taut. Operate drill in a forward direction. Floss will begin to twist. Continue twisting until floss is very tightly twisted and is about to twist up on itself.
3. Carefully remove knotted end from drill hook, being extremely careful not to let go of end and keeping twisted floss taut. Place hook of cording drill in center of length of twisted floss and place knotted end on knob, still keeping floss taut. Operate drill in a reverse direction until desired twist for cording is achieved. Remove drill. Remove ends from knob and secure with another knot.

GENERAL FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:
Cording or trim (**Note:** See Step 2 to determine length.)
Backing fabric to complement cross stitch
Thread to match fabrics or trim
Hand-sewing needle
Tape measure
Ruler
Steam iron
Scissors
Transparent fabric glue (optional)

1. Press stitched piece from back. **Note:** Some threads cannot be ironed with steam.
2. Measure circumference of finished ornament and add 8" for hanger to this measurement to determine the length of cording or trim for each ornament.
3. When attaching cording, secure cut ends with stitches or fabric glue. Blind stitch cording to ornament, using sewing thread and concealing cut ends.

PILLOW-ORNAMENT FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:
Polyester stuffing
Fabric-marking pencil
Straight pins
Sewing machine (optional)

1. Measure desired distance (⅛"–1") from stitching on all sides and draw a line this distance from edge of design all around, staying on grain-line of fabric when possible. Do **not** cut fabric. Place ornament over a piece of backing fabric (right sides together) and pin layers together.
2. Sew around ornament along drawn line, leaving an opening at bottom for turning. Trim all layers to seam allowances of ¼". Trim corners to seam allowances of ⅛".
3. Turn ornament to right side, fill with polyester stuffing, and sew opening closed.
4. Attach trim and hanger.

ORNAMENT FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:
Self-adhesive padded mounting board
Hot-glue gun or craft glue (optional)

1. Cut two pieces of mounting board to desired ornament size (⅛"–1" larger than stitching).
2. Center stitched ornament on one piece of mounting board, following manufacturer's instructions. Repeat on other piece of mounting board for backing fabric.
3. With wrong sides together, blind stitch or glue backing to ornament.
4. Attach trim and hanger.

FLAT-ORNAMENT FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:
Padded mounting board
Fabric-marking pencil
Straight pins
Sewing machine (optional)

1. Measure desired distance (⅛"–1") from stitching on all sides and draw a line this distance from edge of design all around, staying on grain-line of fabric when possible. Do **not** cut fabric. Place ornament over a piece of backing fabric (right sides together) and pin layers together along edge of stitching.
2. Sew around ornament along drawn line, leaving bottom of ornament open. Trim layers to seam allowances of ¼". Trim corners to seam allowances of ⅛". Turn ornament to right side.
3. Using ornament as a pattern, cut mounting board. Insert mounting board into ornament and sew opening closed.
4. Attach trim and hanger.

TASSEL-MAKING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:

One skein of floss (**Note:** Refer to ornament color code for specific color and fiber used.)
Square piece of sturdy cardboard, approximately 1" larger than desired finished size of tassel
Hand-sewing needle
Scissors

1. Cut two 6" lengths of floss from full skein. Set aside for tying top of tassel.
2. Wrap remaining floss around cardboard, referring to Illustration 1 and being careful not to bend cardboard by wrapping floss too tightly.
3. Slip one 6" length of floss under wrapped floss at top edge of cardboard and tie securely, referring to Illustration 2. Do not trim floss tails.
4. Carefully remove cardboard.
5. Referring to Illustration 3, wind second 6" length of floss around neck of tassel, ¼"–½" from top of tassel. Thread needle with floss tail and wrap around tie several times, referring to Illustration 4. Bury floss end in tassel. Repeat for remaining floss tail.
6. Cut along bottom of tassel through all fibers. Trim bottom of tassel to desired length and so that floss is even.
7. Attach tassel to ornament, using floss tail at top of tassel to secure.

ILL. 1

ILL. 2

ILL. 3

ILL. 4

COMPLETED TASSEL

Your Complete Source of Craft & Needlework Supplies

We are in the process of making some exciting new changes to our web page.

You will love the new look and the ease of shopping!

CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION

We offer publications, fabric, kits, threads and ribbons, *Stoney Creek Cross Stitch Collection* Magazine, buttons, beads, charms, gifts and more!

Marilyn's Needlework Catalog

Home of Stoney Creek COLLECTION

Don't miss the new

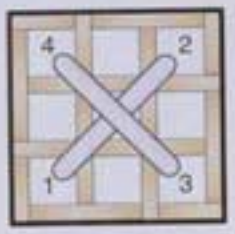
www.marilyns.com

or call 1-800-243-1410

Stitch Illustrations

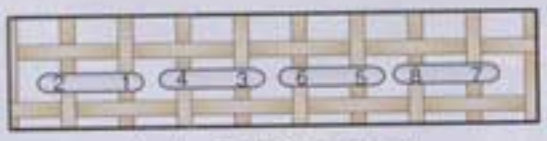
Cross Stitch (Aida)

Cross Stitch (Over One)



Cross Stitch (Over Two)

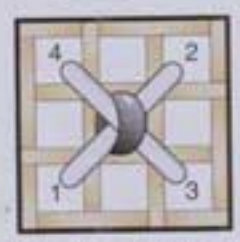
Backstitch (Aida)



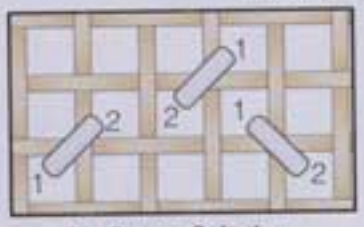
Backstitch (Over Two)

Smyrna Cross Stitch (Over Four)

Cross Stitch (Over Four)

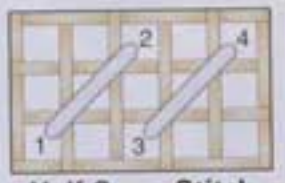


Attaching a Bead with a Cross Stitch

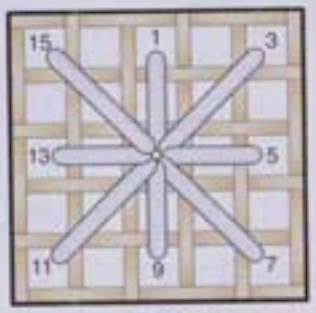


1/4 Cross Stitches

Cross Stitch on Perforated Paper

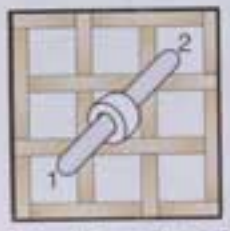


Half Cross Stitch (Over Two)

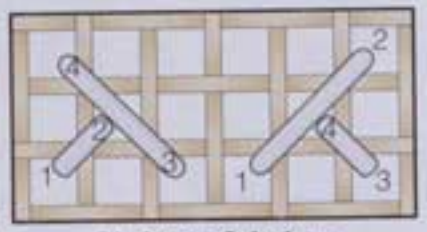


Algerian-Eye Stitch (Over Four)

Tent Stitch (Over Two)

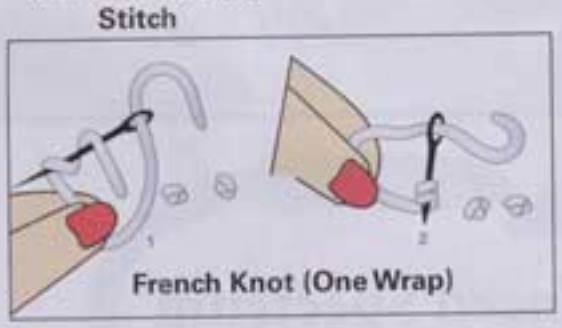


Attaching a Bead with a Half Cross Stitch

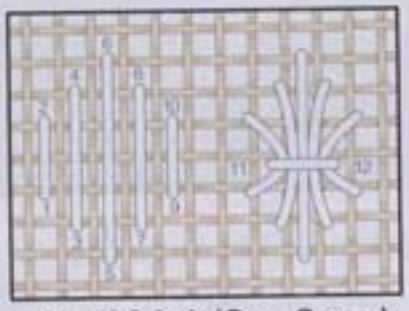


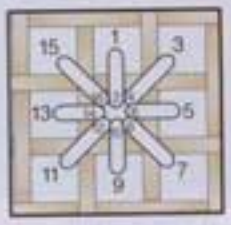
3/4 Cross Stitches

Diamond Eyelet Stitch (Over Four Squares)



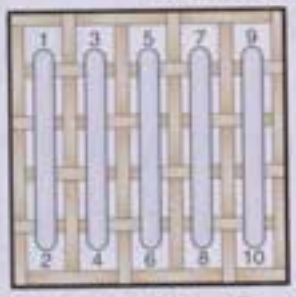
French Knot (One Wrap)


Sheaf Stitch (Over Seven)

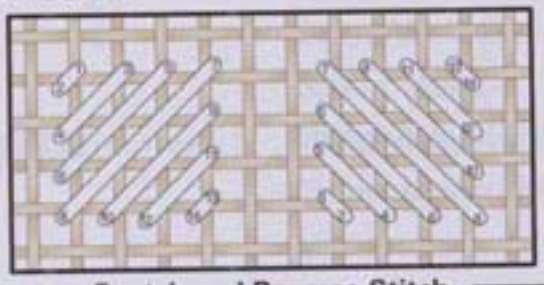


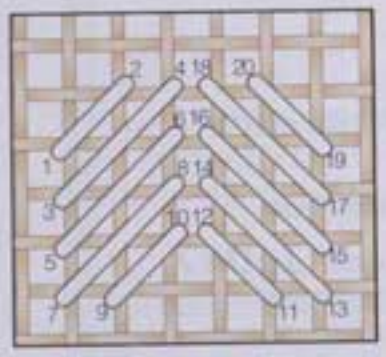
Algerian-Eye Stitch (Over Four)

Shell Stitch



Satin Stitch (Over Four)


Scotch and Reverse Stitch (Over Two)

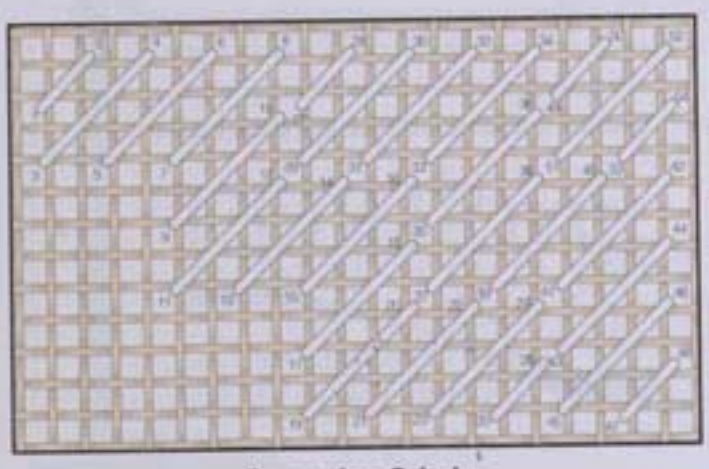

Alternating Cashmere Stitch

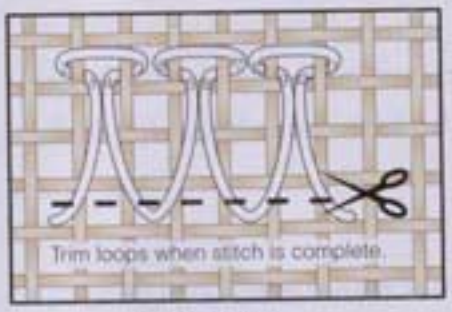
Modified Smyrna Cross Stitch (Over Two)

Long/Straight Stitch (Over Five)

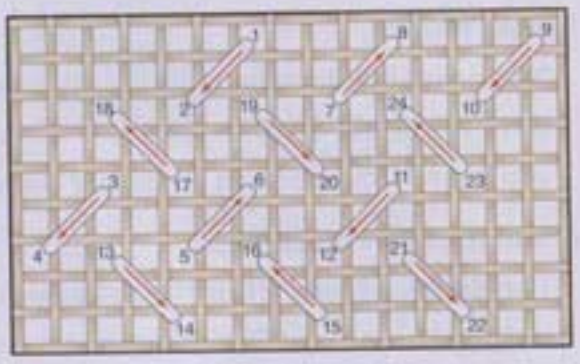
Smyrna Cross Stitch (Over Two)

Smyrna Cross Stitch (Over Twelve)


Byzantine Stitch



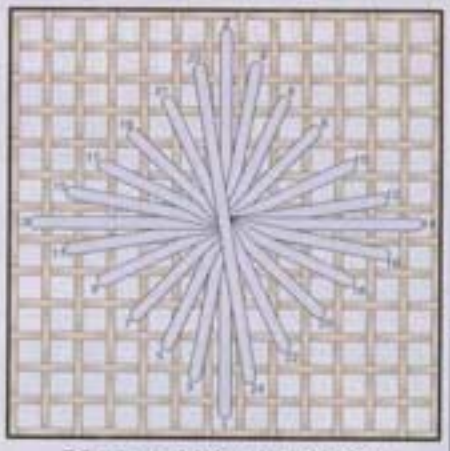
Turkey Knots


Darning Stitch

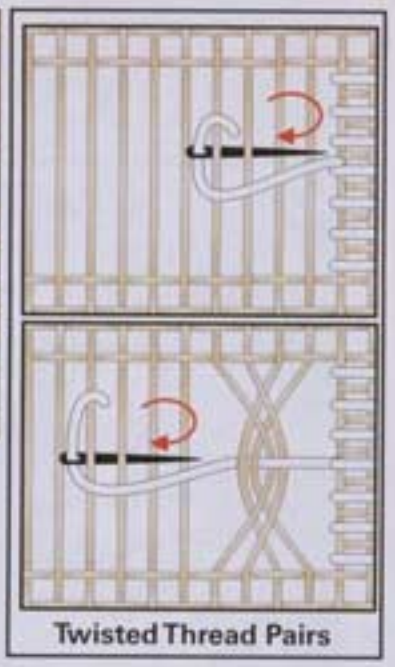
Attaching a Paillette

Diamond Eyelet Stitch
(Over Eight)

Diamond Rhodes Stitch
(Over Six)



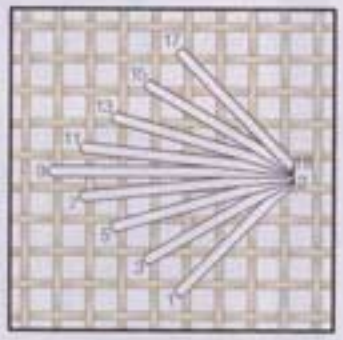
Diamond Rhodes Stitch
(Over Twelve)



Twisted Thread Pairs

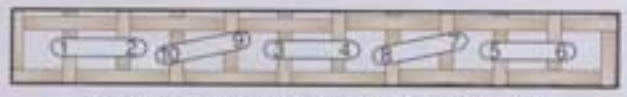
Broad Chain Stitch
(Over Two)

Diamond Eyelet Stitch
(Over Six Squares)



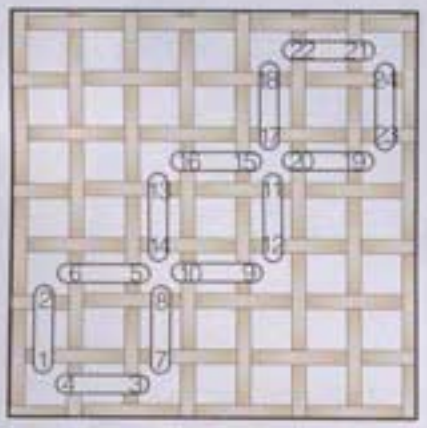
Horizontal Ray Stitch
(Over Eight)

Double Herringbone Stitch
(Over Eight)



Double-Running Stitch (Over Two)

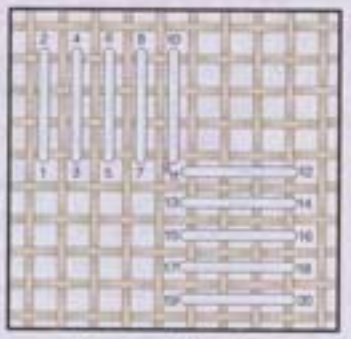
Diamond Rhodes Stitch
(Over Eight)



Four-Sided Stitch
(Over Two)

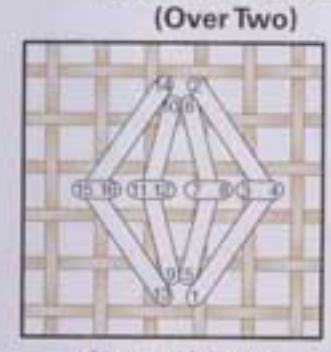
Rice Stitch
(Over Four)

Eyelet Stitch
(Over Six)



Kloster Blocks

Rhodes Stitch
(Over Six)

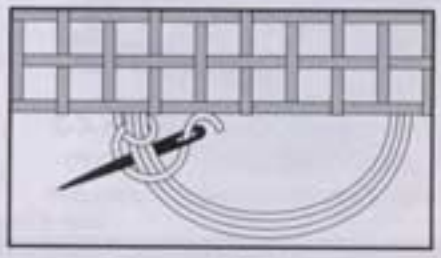


Queen Stitch
(Over Four)

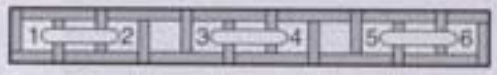
Tied Upright
Cross Stitch

Tied Smyrna
Cross Stitch

Leaf Stitch
(Kitty & Me Designs)



Buttonhole Loop

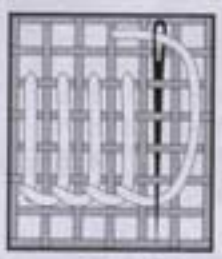


Running Stitch (Over Two)

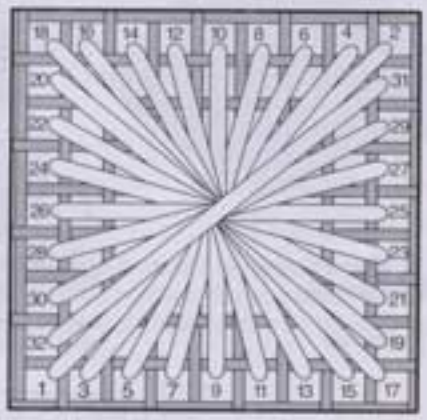
Upright Cross Stitch
(Over Two)

Ray Stitch Variation
(Over Eight)

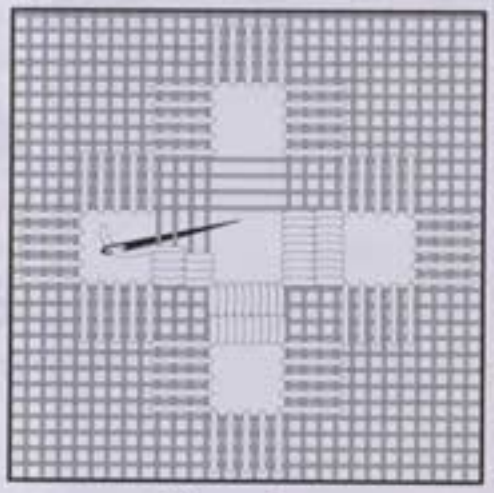
Triple Cross
Stitch



Buttonhole Stitch
(Over Four)



Rhodes Stitch
(Over Eight)



Woven Bars